

# GIUSTINIANO IMPERATORE

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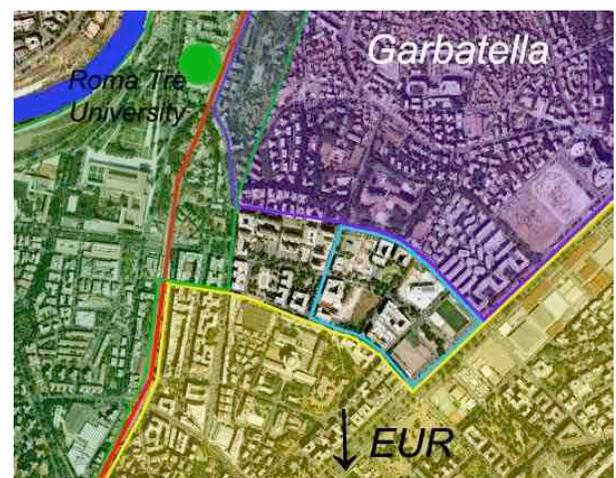
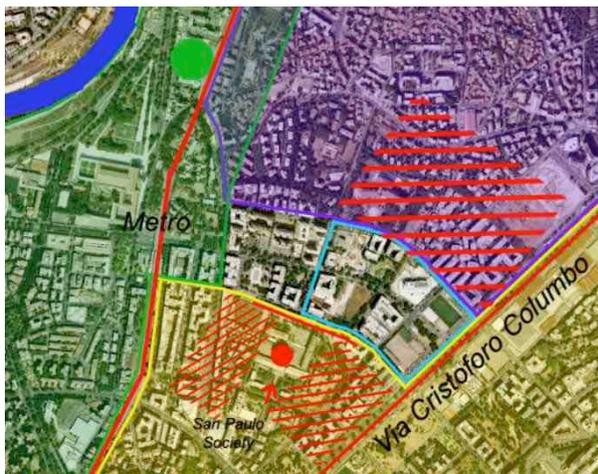
# OVERVIEW OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD

## *Giustiniano Imperatore*

### Introduction

First developed in the 1940s as a mainly residential district, the Giustiniano Imperatore neighborhood is located off of the major via Cristoforo Colombo and just north of the EUR, a fascist era neighborhood developed by Mussolini. As part of expansion after the introduction of the EUR, the neighborhood of Giustiniano Imperatore has slowly developed with high-rise residential apartment buildings, but with most of its residents identifying with other areas of Rome. In addition to the lack of a sense of community, the neighborhood has no real anchors attracting activity to the area, Giustiniano Imperatore has developed as a residual area defined by its surrounding neighborhoods of Garbatella, the EUR and the communities developed around the Metro stop.

In addition to data collection portraying the neighborhood as a residual area in relation to social and community interaction, the neighborhood is separated from the surrounding neighborhoods by physical barriers showing its urban development as a negatively defined space. The first map below shows the area separated by its physical boundaries defining the area including the Via Cristoforo Colombo, the sloping hills on the north and south sides and the metro line on the fourth side. Additionally, the San Paolo Society located on the hill south of via Alessandro Severo has its entrance at the top of the hill with its back facing towards the neighborhood. The second map shows the negative space left by the surrounding areas that identify themselves with other nearby neighborhoods - Garbatella to the north, the EUR to the South and the Metro and University to the East. This concept of the Giustiniano Imperatore neighborhood as a negatively defined space is one that appeared as a constant theme through our research, interviews and empirical fieldwork.



Giustiniano Imperatore as a residual area surrounded by Garbatella and the EUR.

Source: Google Maps

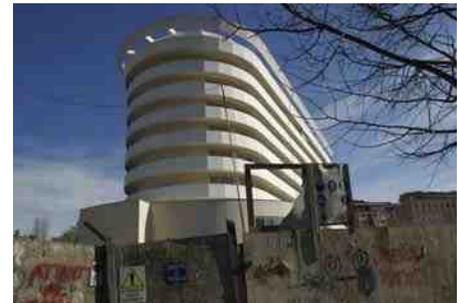
Another important historic element that has affected the neighborhood is the high water table below a large portion of the six-block area studied. The valley in between Garbatella and the EUR, where Giustiniano Imperatore is located, was once a riverbed. This has today created an unstable base for many of the apartment buildings - many of the buildings are visually crooked or cracked, particularly the ones built before 1960. Most of the buildings are still occupied by their residents despite their dilapidation. However, within the last five years, one of the crooked had to be cut because half of the building collapsed. The displaced residents are in the process of being moved to the neighborhood's newest building that is in its final stages of construction.



A crooked apartment building in Giustiniano Imperatore

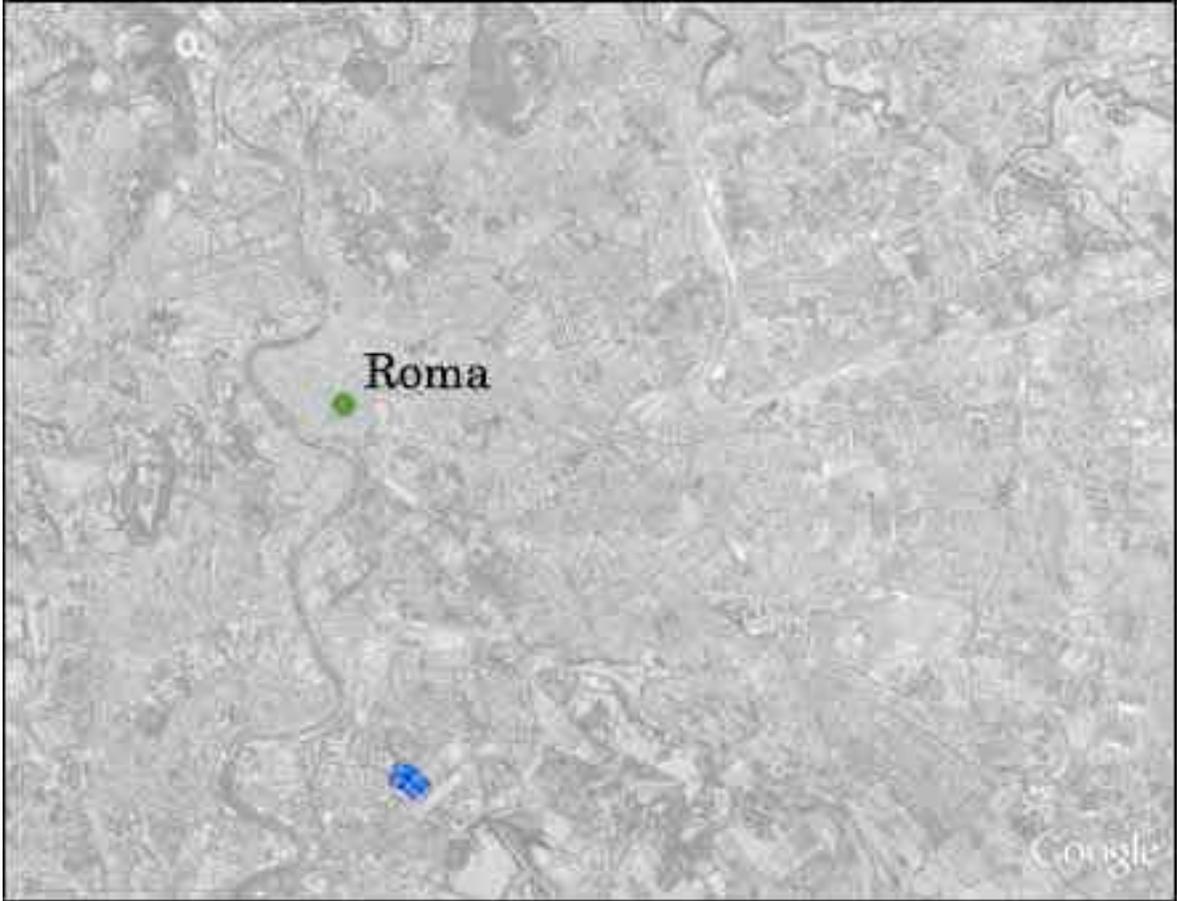
As a result of not having a true definition, the negatively defined space that confines Giustiniano Imperatore has little commercial activity. One resident and small shop owner described Giustiniano as a non-commercial area simply consisting of residential spaces. Due to this lack of activity, a large number of vacancies surround the few small shops. Attracting commercial activity is one of many items on the agenda for the local government of Municipio XI.

In addition to the small shop vacancies, large-scale development has been a theme in the past decade. Local opposition has prohibited the opening of a five star hotel since its construction three years ago. Ultimately, it was the decision of the municipal government that placed the hotel in Giustiniano Imperatore without considering the lack of community consensus. The stands as a major contention in the area and dramatically affects the landscape and economic activity. Also contributing to the economic situation in Giustiniano Imperatore, a chain super market (Conad) attracts consumers while taking away business from small market and local stores.



The Vacant Five Star Hotel

These issues of the high water table, vacancies and large-scale development has attracted attention from shop-owners, consumers and the local municipal government. The following is a comprehensive survey of the Giustiniano Imperatore neighborhood, defined by the boundaries of via Cristoforo Colombo, via Constantino, via Alessandro Severo and Viale della Villa di Lucina. Through its history, a street survey, interviews and an in depth analysis of the major issues affect the area, this study explores the causes and existence of a negatively defined space in the periphery of Rome.



Giustiniano Imperatore is located due south of the center of Rome and North of EUR on Via Cristoforo Colombo.  
Source: Google Earth

## History

The area of study around Via Giustiniano Imperatore (G.I.) is characterized as a residual area; an area haphazardly built beginning in the 1950's. To understand the major themes, strengths and weaknesses of this neighborhood, it is imperative to understand its location and development within Rome.

The Giustiniano Imperatore neighborhood is located between the Esposizione Universale Roma (EUR), Roma Tre University, Garbatella, and the Basilica di San Paolo Metro stop. The Basilica di San Paolo, constructed in the fourth century, was relatively isolated but eventually surrounded by residential buildings and linked to the rest of the city with the Metro line. Garbatella, located North of G.I., was constructed in the 1930's at the same time as the EUR establishing a new urban ideology, in the middle of a rural setting outside Rome. In the decades before and after the construction of G.I., new developments were established in the area, linked by both the Metro and Via Cristoforo Colombo.

The graphic below depicts major landmarks in Giustiniano Imperatore that are referenced through the survey including Via Cristoforo Colombo. They include the Society of San Paolo, Roma Tre University, an empty lot located off of via Alessandro Severo and the vacant hotel on Viale Giustiniano Imperatore.



The boundaries shown above consist of Via Cristoforo Colombo to the East, Via Constantino to the north, Viale Alessandro Severo to the south, and Via della Villa di Lucina to the west. The bounded area is centered around Viale Giustiniano Imperatore.

Source: Google Maps

The construction of via Cristoforo Colombo in 1952, which linked the industrial quarter of Ostia with the city, established a large boulevard through the EUR and facilitated the eventual development of the valley in between Garbatella and the EUR. Developments grew incrementally around the existing infrastructure of the railroad, the river, and via Cristoforo Colombo. Along via Cristoforo Colombo, many large corporations and government buildings, such as a large tax agency on the corner of Via Cristoforo Colombo and via Alessandro Severo, established themselves and created an area that largely closes down at night.

Until the 1950's, only two buildings existed within our study area, a large residential building from the 1940's along via Cristoforo Colombo, and the Society di San Paolo. Beginning in the 1950's, the high-rise apartment buildings were constructed within the valley. Residential development continued incrementally throughout the 1980's. Between the 1980's and the turn of the 21st century only public structures, such as a municipal pool and several playing fields, were constructed. Finally, the most recent decade has seen the construction of large-scale commercial and re-development projects, including the Conad grocery store, the Mobile Tre office complex, the five star hotel, and a new residential building.

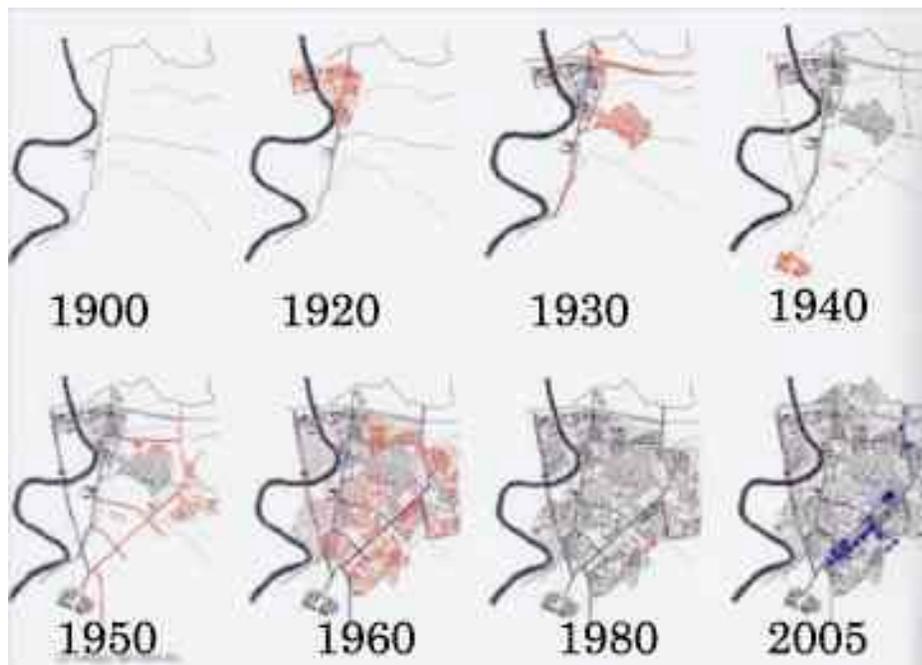
Today, the area is on the verge of a transformation as a result of the renewed interest shown by Municipio XI in developing the area. The municipal government developed a "butterfly plan" that re-envisioned the entire neighborhood by creating a greenbelt and "butterfly" shape with the construction of residential buildings (as can be seen in the graphic on the right). The plan has undergone different versions and stages since it was first proposed. Currently, only one building of the many envisioned in the "butterfly" has been realized, located on Via Giustiniano Imperatore. The neighborhood seems to be veering away from the plan, especially with the large-scale construction of the now vacant five star hotel that was not included in the most recent version of the "butterfly". There is also a newly constructed pedestrian area along the south side of Via della Villa di Lucina that is similar to what the "butterfly" exemplifies with the potential for pedestrian friendliness and the possibility for a public social space.



Butterfly Plan, Municipio XI



The boundaries of the area of study – Giustiniano Imperatore  
 Source: Google Maps



The development of the area from the 1900s to 2000s  
 Source: Municipio XI

# METHODOLOGY OF DATA COLLECTION

*Giustiniano Imperatore*

## Methodology

Our field research of the Giustiniano Imperatore neighborhood included four types of basic methodology: statistical research; lynch map analysis, street surveys and interviews. We worked with the ISTAT data available to us from the 2001 Italian census in order to analyze the neighborhood demographics and compare Giustiniano Imperatore to all of Rome. We also completed a Lynch map analysis focusing on our own observations and experiences in the neighborhood by mapping our own landmarks, nodes, paths, edges and districts. The detailed street survey focused on empirical data collection of the street types, built environment, sidewalks, traffic and cars, pedestrians, noise, green space and the social environment. Additionally, we conducted interviews with residents, shop-owners and workers in the area asking about neighborhood issues and a drawing of their own Lynch maps.

## Statistical Data

For statistical background, our data came from the Italia census of 2001 extracted through GIS. After extracting the census charts of our neighborhood and translating titles from Italian to English, we imported the information into an excel file in order to organize the information. We then aggregated information we found useful and interesting and made graphs with the more complicated data. We were then able to compare some of these statistics with ISTAT data from the municipality, although this information did not cover all of the topics we found interesting from the neighborhood census. Once we extracted all necessary information from the ISTAT database, we were able to compare statistics through excel computations.

## Lynch Map Analysis

Based upon Kevin Lynch's theories from *The Image of the City*, we created a "Lynch Map" reflecting our understanding of Giustiniano Imperatore. In his book, Lynch discusses legibility which is mandatory for people to understand the layout of a place and is what makes places attractive to people. To understand the layout of the city, people must create their own mental map of the area and specifically a network of elements – paths, edges, districts, nodes and landmarks. Lynch administered an experiment to determine legibility by surveying people in different cities asking them to draw a mental map. Using our knowledge of the neighborhood from our walking tours, we hand drew a "Lynch map" on a 11 in x 17 in piece of paper labeling the nodes, paths, edges, landmarks and districts based on our own experiences in the area. Nodes were areas we considered to be places of congregation; we labeled landmarks as places we used to orient ourselves; pathways were routes that we continuously used to and from nodes or landmarks; edges were mostly marked by the given boundaries of our neighborhood as well as the metro line and the Via Cristoforo Colombo; and finally we labeled districts as areas that were grouped together with a common theme (included later in the Lynch analysis section).

## Street Survey

We focused our observations on built environment, street type, sidewalks, traffic, green space and the social environment as we explored Giustiniano Imperatore.

However, instead of working street by street, we focused on the area on a block-by-block basis. Physically, the neighborhood is grouped in blocks rather than by the streets because of similar building types on each separate block. We surveyed one block after another until the whole neighborhood was covered. We have recorded our street survey observations street-by-street to organize our survey more logically, but it is clear in the building typology survey that the neighborhood buildings are organized block-by-block. While on site, one person would write down observations as we went along a block and another would record the businesses on the ground floor of the building (as well as the building height, condition and other relevant information) and activity along the street. If more than two people were present, we would take photographs and record other data in addition to the surveys.

## Interviewing

We conducted a total of seven interviews in our neighborhood – four of them were focused on Lynch maps and the other three were issue based. While conducting interviews, we were generally accompanied by a TA (Claudia or Carlotta) or a professor (Professor Smith or Warner) to help overcome language barriers. The interviews focused mostly on local shop owners and residents of the neighborhood, but we additionally interviewed the Director of Municipio XI, Patrizia Ricci who had more fact-based information for the neighborhood. Often we would combine the two types of interviews with Lynch maps and the discussion of issues overlapping (each interview is outlined in our interview section). Each interview was based on that particular situation and varied greatly.

### *Lynch Map Interview*

For the Lynch map interview we would ask the interviewee to draw the neighborhood the way that they use it and see it giving them a blank 5.5in x 8.5 in sheet of paper – their own mental map, or “Lynch map.” As the interviewee drew, we would ask questions about the objects they drew and ask them to label different parts depending on the focus of their map.

### *Issue Based Interview*

Focusing on four major issues, we had 16 questions prepared and would ask any number of them or more depending on each individual situation and where the conversation would take us. The four issues we focused on were the commercial spaces, public spaces, infrastructure and the redevelopment project. (Questions are attached in Appendix)

# STATISTICAL BACKGROUND

## *Giustiniano Imperatore*

### *Population*

Source: Census Data, Insituto Nazionale Di Statistics

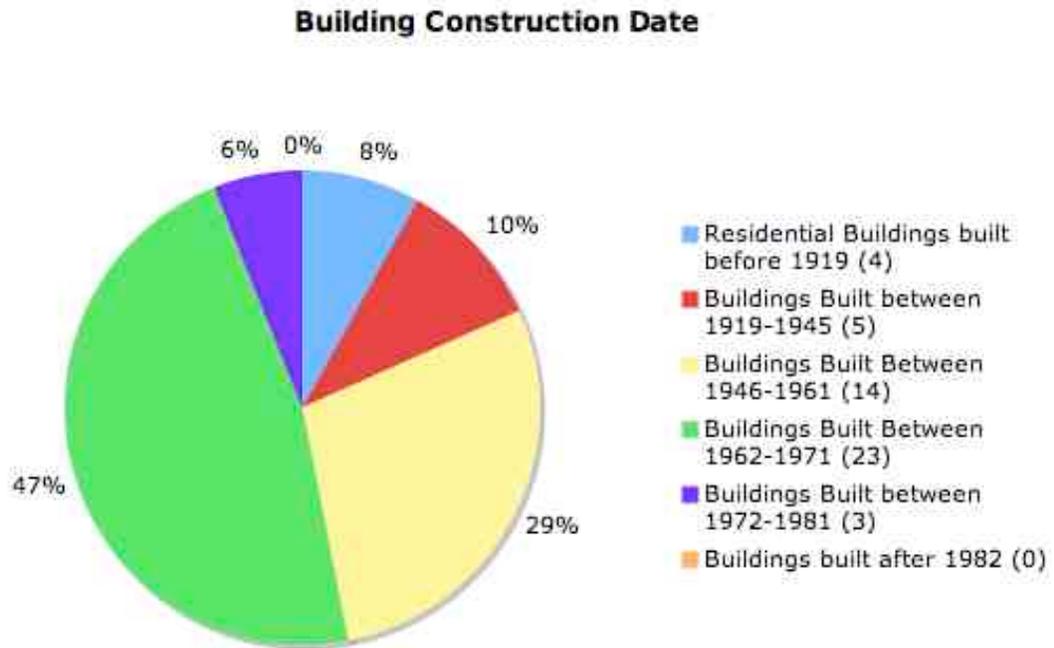
When we started observing the neighborhood of Giustiniano Imperatore, this neighborhood seemed like a residual area, in that it seemed to be a space. To try to understand why this neighborhood seemed to be lacking a sense of community, we looked at and tried to analyze the statistics of the neighborhood in the form of the 2001 Census. The statistics help to illustrate more about the composition of our neighborhood, especially as an explanation for our empirical analysis and when compared to the January 2002 ISTAT count of the municipality of Rome.

The total population of Giustiniano Imperatore is 2971 people, comprising of .12% of the Roman population of 2540829. The male population is 1387 persons while the female population is 1584, so females are a 53.32% majority, compared with the Roman municipal 53.02% female and 47.18% male composition. These proportions are similar enough between Giustiniano Imperatore and the entire municipality for us to conclude that this does not contribute to the lack of community. The two largest populations in Giustiniano Imperatore are the populations over 70 years old (17.44%) and the population between 30 and 39 (16.80%), which are marginally higher than the Roman average of 16.30% between 30 and 39, 16.58% over 70 years old. A large portion of homes (88.67%) and apartments (89.01%) are occupied by their owners, which may seem extremely high until compared with the Roman municipality owner occupation of 89.69%. Of these many statistics, it seems that, when compared to the Roman municipality, Giustiniano Imperatore's composition is not unusual enough to explain its lack of community or its other issues.

Two statistical differences between Giustiniano Imperatore and the municipality of Rome help to support our empirical analysis concluding that there is a lack of social capital in Giustiniano Imperatore. Firstly, residents under 20 years old make up 15.12% of the population, compared to the Roman average of 19.42%. This 4.3% difference may contribute to the lack of community in Giustiniano Imperatore due to decreased public space use or general community vitality. Residents of foreign origin make up 5.45 % of the population in Giustiniano Imperatore neighborhood; compared with the Roman average of .68% both registered and unregistered foreigners. Increased diversity could affect the feel of community in that a more diverse group may struggle to share issues or values. While not fully explaining the issues of the neighborhood, the older and more diverse population present in Giustiniano Imperatore could contribute to its problems.

We looked at census data concerning buildings and housing to see if this could help support our observations regarding the lack of community in this neighborhood. One particularly interesting statistic, shown in Graph 1, is the documentation of the construction dates for the buildings. As the graph shows, a large majority of buildings were built between 1919-1971. This was evident in our observations of the neighborhood, because the buildings looked old and in need of repair or replacement. Even more interesting is the statistic that no buildings had been constructed from 1982-2001, when the census took place. Today, there are new buildings under construction, but that there was no building built in the last nineteen years. There is a lack of social viability in the neighborhood, and presumably the consequential lack of financial investment.

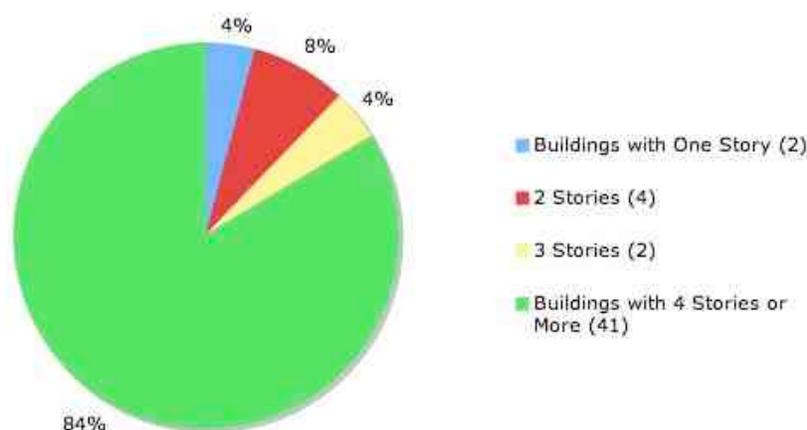
**Graph 1**



Another interesting statistic is that a vast majority of buildings are larger than four stories, as shown in Graph 2. Through observation, it seems that all of the tall buildings were residential apartment buildings. While this successfully results in high density, there is no public space present in the neighborhood large enough to encourage social gatherings or sense of community. While sense of community is built in high-density urban areas that provide adequate public space for socializing, Giustiniano Imperatore's high density is unable to achieve this. Instead, these high-density buildings put even further strain on infrastructure and services of the area, such as demand for parking. This likely contributed to our observation that there was a lack of parking available for residents, which resulted in illegal parking.

**Graph 2**

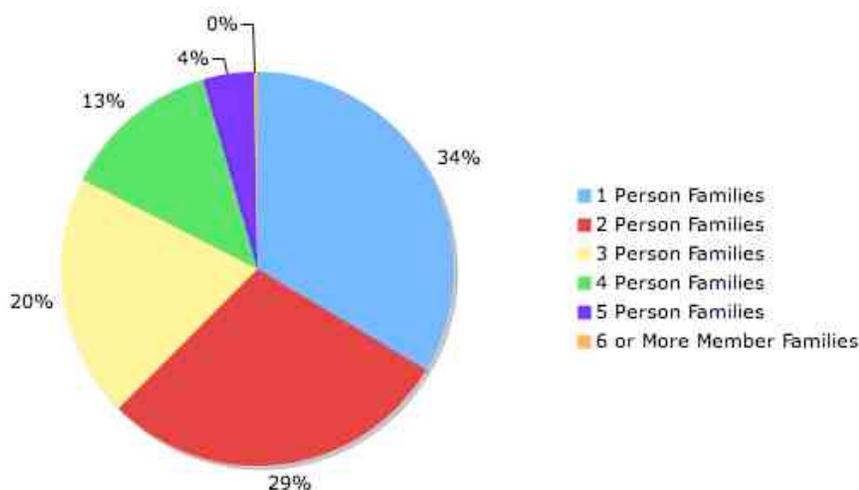
**Building Size**



One population that supports our observations is the small family size residing in Giustiniano Imperatore, as illustrated in Graph 3. A majority of families are two less people, presumably either a couple or a single adult. Especially when combined with the low population of residents under twenty years, this would certainly have an affect on the culture of the neighborhood.

**Graph 3**

**Family Size**



Many of the population, employment, and housing statistics analyzed were not remarkably divergent from the statistics of Rome as a whole. However, there were particular statistics that confirm our empirical analyses regarding the lack of community present in Giustiniano Imperatore. Small family size, tall and old buildings are all statistics that support the observed lack of community vitality present in Giustiniano Imperatore. Other statistics, when compared to the Roman municipality statistics, also help to portray Giustiniano Imperatore as lacking in important aspects that contribute to a sense of community, especially the high proportion of an older population and low proportion of residents under twenty years old.

# OVERVIEW OF TYPOLOGY

*Giustiniano Imperatore*

We have created three maps that serve as an overview of the building and street typology of our neighborhood. The first map is a land use map that shows building typology based on use and breaks down the commercial buildings in detail. Our typology analysis differs from our land use map because it analyzes buildings based on their construction materials. The maps and their corresponding keys are included in the following five pages.

## Land Use

The first map included shows that the area is unique from many neighborhoods because it has very few residential or mixed-use residential buildings. Instead, it has about half residential and the other half hotel, commercial, institutional, or athletic.

## Building Typology

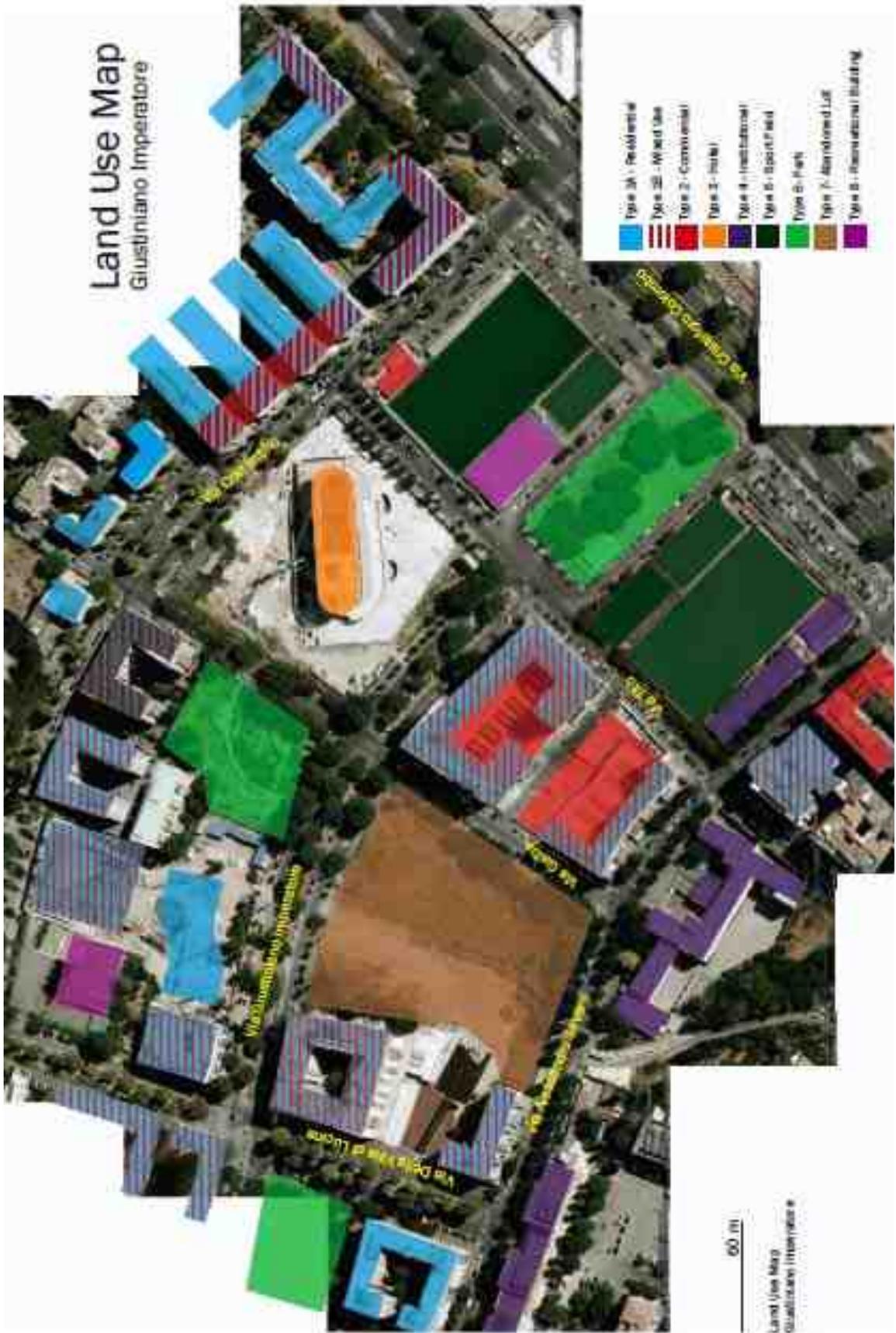
The buildings are classified based on the approximate time of construction and land use for two reasons. The residential mixed-use buildings are classified by time because they are in the same state of maintenance and deterioration. For instance, all the buildings in light blue were constructed during the 1950's and are all in a state of decay; they generally have large cracks in their face or do not stand straight. The rest of the buildings are classified by use to show how the large portion of non-residential buildings changes the typology of the neighborhood. Following the first map, we include a key for each different type of building with photographic examples and general characteristics.

## Street Typology

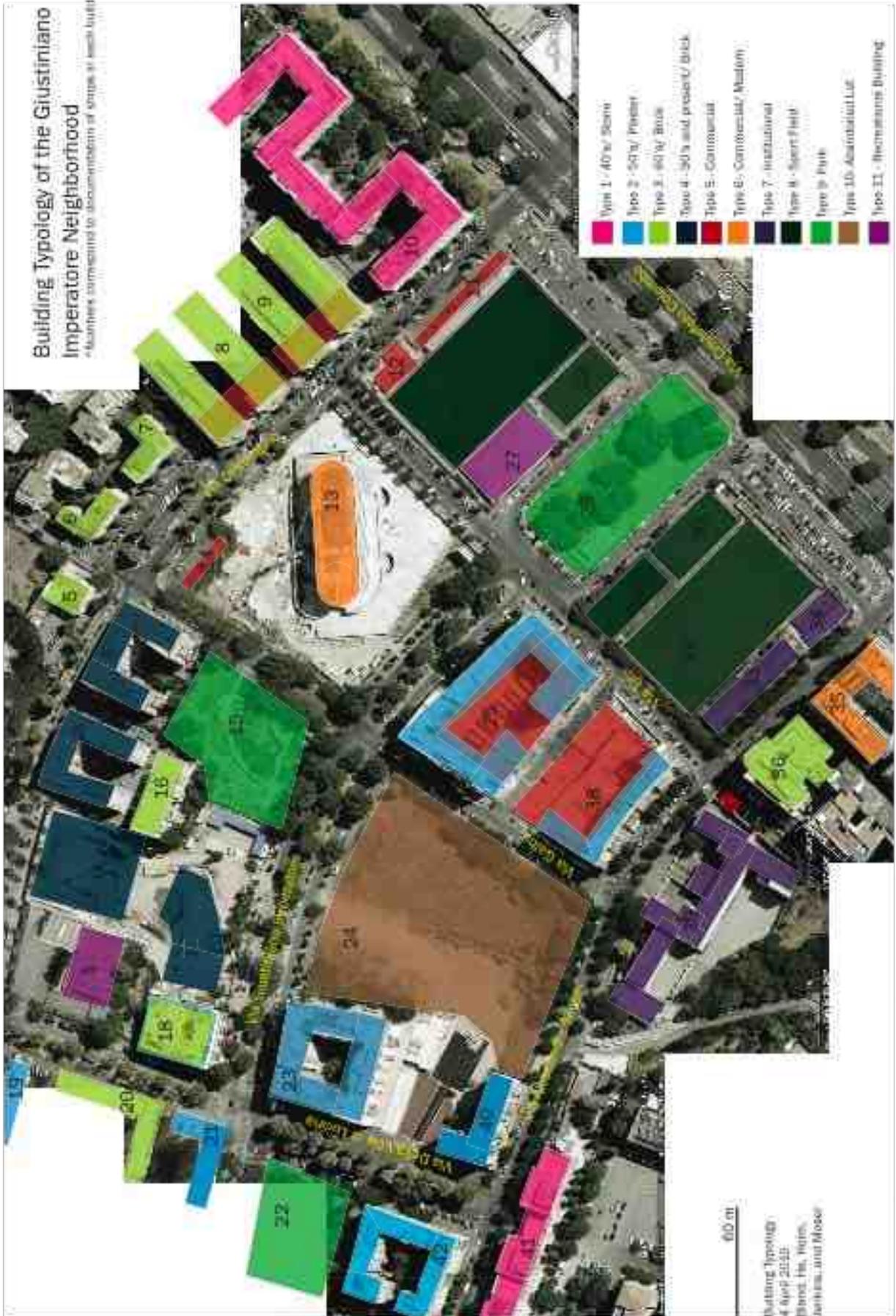
The first three streets, blue, orange, and yellow-green are classified by activity level, decreasing respectively. The street activity is largely determined by the building use on each side of the street. Due to the presence of many vacant lots or buildings, many streets have low pedestrian activity. On the edges of our study area we also have a major road, a gated road, two parking lots that pedestrians walk through along via Cristoforo Colombo, and a redesigned walkway. A street typology for our neighborhood is important to understand because there is a diverse range of activity, traffic level, and aesthetic quality.

Source: Google Maps

# Land Use Map Giustiniano Imperatore



ΣΧΗ 4100 ΚΟΜΕ Π ΟΥΚΣΟΡ. ΓΙΟΥΣΤΙΝΙΟ ΙΜΠΕΡΑΤΟΡ



## Giustiniano Imperatore Typology Key

					
<p><b>Type 1 - 40's/ Stone</b>            Built in the 1940s            Residential and Institutional            Built following the construction and realization of the EUR            Well maintained            No balconies or plants            Building pictured here is characterized by rounded windows on the top row.</p>	<p><b>Type 2 - 50's/ Plaster</b>            Built in the 1950s            Typically not standing straight            Cracks in facade            Plaster and cement facade            7 to 10 stories tall            Balconies            Plants</p>	<p><b>Type 3 - 60's/ Brick</b>            Built in the 1960s            Well maintained            7 to 10 stories tall            No apparent signs of cracking, shifting base, or dislodgment from the foundation.</p>	<p><b>Type 4 - 80's and present</b>            Built from the 1980s to present            Characterized by unique features to the neighborhood such as a pitched roof, shown here, and a curved facade as part of the new development.            Well maintained brick</p>	<p><b>Type 5 - Commercial</b>            Small shops and large super-stores called Conad            Lively            Clean            Many vacancies in small spaces            About half are well maintained, half have garbage collecting around the entrance. This depends on if they are occupied or not, respectively.</p>	<p><b>Type 6 - Communitary/ Modern</b>            Composed of the final three levels and the middle "3" office building on Via Alessandro Severo.            Well maintained            None            With great reflective potential</p>
					
<p><b>Type 7 - Institutional</b>            Behind walls            Includes a middle school and vocational school, and an elder community building.            School characterized by graffiti.            Elder association is not visible, hidden behind shrubs.</p>	<p><b>Type 8 - Sport Field</b>            Privately maintained            Gated            Used frequently after school by children and before dinner by older leagues</p>	<p><b>Type 9 - Park</b>            Gated playground            Open area with benches by Via Cristoforo Colombo            Small park on Via G.I.            Clean            Little use during February and March, more use observed once good weather approached in April.</p>	<p><b>Type 10 - Abandoned Lot</b>            Filled with old construction material            Wire and plastic gate            Overgrown            Occupies half a block            Contested area</p>	<p><b>Type 11 - Recreational Building</b>            Indoor Roller Skating rink and indoor pool            Well maintained            About 10 meters tall            no windows            Frequent use and traffic going to and from the parking lots in front of the structures.</p>	

# Street Typology of the Giustiniano Imperatore Neighborhood



# Giustiniano Imperatore Street Typology Key



**Type 1 - High pedestrian activity**

Streets in blue generally have more pedestrian activity and street life because on either side of the street there is some institutional or mixed use building.



**Type 2 - Medium ped. activity**

Less street activity because the streets run may have an abandoned building or vacant space, or a playing field opposite a dynamic building.



**Type 3 - Low ped. activity**

The least amount of street activity exists along the roads and sidewalks which are bordered by empty and underutilized buildings or fields on both sides. Generally more trash and cracks in the pavement



**Type 4 - Major road**

Via Cristoforo Colombo creates a southern edge and is characterized by fast and loud traffic. Picture seen here is taken from the parking lot which buffers the route with the area.



**Type 5 - Parking Lot**

Two parking lots buffer Via Cristoforo Colombo and the playing fields. They generally lack any activity and create an unpleasant atmosphere for walking.



**Type 6 - Designed Walkway**

Lively pedestrian area on Via della Villa di Lucina. Access for cars, but the hierarchy of space invites people of all ages to stroll, sit, and relax. Plans for extension along the whole road not yet realized.



**Type 7 - Private and Gated**

Private street leads away from Via Alessandro Severo. Well kept and free of trash.

# STREET SURVEY

*Giustiniano Imperatore*

## Street Survey: Overview

The surveyed area of the neighborhood of Giustiniano Imperatore includes seven main streets that make up the mainly mixed-use commercial/residential area. The area is defined by a blue outline on Map 1 below. You can see the neighborhood bounded on one side by via Cristoforo Colombo (a busy highway-like street leading in the south to the EUR – a business district of Fascist origin). What are not visible however are the physical boundaries of upward sloping hills at via Constantino and via Alessandro Severo.

The neighborhood is defined on three sides by the two physical barriers of sloping hills and the fast paced high-traffic of via Cristoforo Colombo. On the West side of the neighborhood, via Giustiniano Imperatore leads to the Metro stop and a bridge underneath the Metro line to the area of San Paolo and the Roma Tre University. The metro provides a fourth physical barrier to the area, however, the actual “neighborhood” ends at via Della Villa di Lucina where a non-physical barrier separates the neighborhood of Giustiniano Imperatore from that of one centered around the Metro stop (with much more focused international and chain commercial developments). The area is thus defined on the East and West by Viale della Villa di Lucina and via Cristoforo Colombo, and on the North and South via Alessandro Severo and via Constantino as you can see on Map 1 below.



## Street Survey: A Map

The street survey was conducted on a block-by-block basis looking particularly at the street types, built environment, traffic, pedestrians, green space and the social environment. Map 3, in the previous page, shows the general results of that survey including the shop types (noticing the vacant properties especially – noted by different colored dots), the special land uses (parks, construction zones, sports fields and green space – colored accordingly) and the quality of the buildings (noted on a color scale from poor to excellent). The map also shows the parking individually on each street and the trees and green spaces in between the sidewalks and the streets. Additionally we surveyed the conditions of the streets and sidewalks, the age, height and condition of each individual building (as well as the types of businesses it holds and/or functions it serves), the traffic intensity and noise level, and social environment (presence of people – ages, activities). In addition to the qualitative data collected and described, we also collected quantifiable data including the numbers of different types of businesses, numbers of trash and recycling receptacles out on the streets, numbers of bus stops and numbers of people together on the streets or outside bars.

Overall the streets of the Giustiniano Imperatore neighborhood are in good condition with few noticeable potholes and cracks. The sidewalks are often obstructed by construction on adjacent buildings and often are uneven because of the water table issues on the blocks in between via Alessandro Severo and via Giustiniano Imperatore. The traffic is high on via Giustiniano Imperatore because of its connection from Cristoforo Colombo (with very high traffic) but overall, the neighborhood is mostly overrun with parked cars, rather than moving ones. Each street-by-street analysis is outlined below with detailed qualitative observations (as outlined above) as well as some quantitative data that was collected.

## Viale Giustiniano Imperatore

Via Giustiniano Imperatore runs directly through the center of the “Giustiniano Imperatore” Neighborhood separated into two lanes by a thick median covered with muddy/grassy areas and trees. At via Tito, the road splits into two one-way separate roads around a better-maintained green space until it ends at via Cristoforo Colombo. The street is an important asset to the neighborhood because it connects the area with the Metro Stop (Basilica San Paolo) further west, and additionally functions as the main thoroughway of the neighborhood. The area of via Giustiniano Imperatore surveyed includes its intersection Viale della Villa di Lucina until it ends at the much larger via Cristoforo Colombo. The map above shows the street and its relation to the rest of the neighborhood.

### Description

#### *Street Type*

Viale Giustiniano Imperatore is a two-way boulevard, with two lanes on either side of the landscaped median. The median is primarily used for parking.

#### *Sidewalks/State of repair*

Viale Giustiniano Imperatore has wide paved sidewalks that are walkable that have some damage such as potholes.



#### *Traffic Intensity*

The Traffic Intensity of Viale Giustiniano Imperatore has two lanes of traffic going both directions, with traffic lights at every 3 or 4-way intersection.

### *Cars/Moped Parking*

Cars and Mopeds are parked on and along the center meridian of Viale Giustiniano Imperatore, along with parking along most of the outer sidewalk going both directions.

### *Trees and Shrubbery*

Large trees (Over 30 feet tall) are present along the central meridian, although there is a minimal grass due to car parking. The sidewalks have medium trees, of about 12 feet tall, along the edge with no other landscaping on the sidewalk.

### *Noise Level*

Moderate levels of Noise exist on Viale Giustiniano Imperatore, as cars and people use it heavily. Also, various construction projects are taking place, which contribute to the noise on the street during working hours.

### *Building Typology*

Viale Giustiniano Imperatore consists of three mixed-use residential building types, an abandoned lot, the hotel, two parks, a recreational building, and three sporting fields.

### *Social Environment*

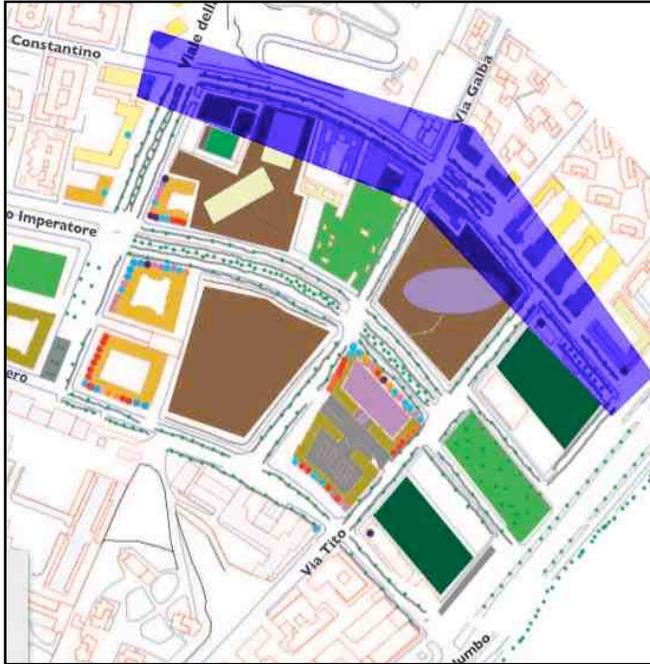
Via Giustiniano Imperatore is the most populated street in terms of pedestrians. This can be attributed to the nature of the shops, placement of the park, and the bus stop. Cafés such as Tony's Bar Latteria are areas of congregation. On a nice day, one many find groups of teenagers, elderly people, and people walking their dogs at the park. The bus is relatively lightly used and is mostly used by minorities.



## Via Constantino

Via Constantino runs parallel to via Giustiniano Imperatore to the North. The street has no median except for a small one on the block just East of via Galba. It seems to be defined by two major characteristics – one is the hill that slopes down right at the edge of the street on the North and the large unoccupied hotel that has one of its sides on via Constantino. Because of the wall created by buildings and the hill on the North side, the street seems to open up more on its south side and especially is dominated by the hotel. Additionally, the street is generally unoccupied in between via Galba and Viale della Villa di Lucina because the hill leads up to the back of a hospital on its north side and its south side is currently surrounding by a construction site of new residential apartment buildings that are still vacant. Of all the streets in the neighborhood, this seems to be the least active and most like a boundary line or space in between two different areas.





**Description**

*Street Type*

Via Constantino is a two-way street.

*Sidewalks/State of repair*

The sidewalks are paved and medium width, with enough room for about 2-3 pedestrians. The paved sidewalks are of good condition and definitely walkable, except where construction blocks the sidewalk such as where via Constantino met via della Villa di Lucina.

*Traffic Intensity*

There is two-way traffic on via Constantino with one lane for each direction. There are stop signs for the intersecting street (not via

Constantino) at each intersection.

*Cars/Moped Parking*

Cars and mopeds are parked along the sidewalks of each side of the street.

*Trees and Shrubbery*

Via Constantino has Medium sized trees (approximately twenty feet tall) lining the edge of both sidewalks. Other than the trees, there is limited landscaping besides a few flowerpots in front of businesses and apartment entrances.

*Noise Level*

Via Constantino is quiet throughout the day. The portion adjacent to via Cristoforo Colombo is relatively noisier.

*Building Typology*

Via Constantino consists of one mixed-use unique residential building, the hotel, one commercial building, a sporting field and eleven residential buildings, seven of which are mixed-use.



## Via Alessandro Severo

Via Alessandro Severo runs parallel to via Giustiniano Imperatore to the South and is one of the neighborhood's most active streets because of a middle school located on the street and a fair amount of traffic coming off of via Cristoforo Colombo and employees headed towards work at the large office building (3 phone company) on the corner of Cristoforo Colombo. The street has wide sidewalks on either side and in addition to the school, the number of active businesses increases the pedestrian street traffic significantly. There is an increase in the amount of graffiti on this street, especially near the school on that building and adjacent ones (and even the sidewalk and street). The street also shares one side of the vacant lot and many of the cracked and crooked buildings that were affected by the underground water level (one of the reasons the vacant lot remains undeveloped).

### Description

#### *Street Type*

Via Alessandro Severo is a two-way street.

#### *Sidewalks/State of repair*

The sidewalks had some weather and use-related damage, but were still walk able.

#### *Traffic Intensity*

Stop signs at each 3 or 4 way intersections. Via della Villa di Lucina is heavily populated by cars before and after school. Otherwise, moderate levels of traffic exist with most cars en route to via Cristoforo Colombo.



#### *Cars/Moped Parking*

Cars and Mopeds park along the sidewalk on both sides of via Alessandro Severo in marked parking spots.

#### *Trees and Shrubbery*

Large trees (over 20 feet tall) line the edge of the sidewalks on both sides of via Alessandro Severo. There is minimal other landscaping, with only a few flower boxes outside of apartment entrances and stores.

#### *Noise Level*

As a result of the educational facility, via Alessandro Severo has fairly high levels of noise. In addition to the school, noise comes from the auto mechanic shops and re-development projects.

### *Building Typology*

Via Alessandro Severo consists of four recreational buildings, an abandoned lot, one commercial building and three mixed-use residential buildings, one of which is under redevelopment.

### *Social Environment*

Via Alessandro Severo is moderately populated with pedestrians, particularly before school and after school. The Eastern side is more populated with foot traffic to and from Conad and various shops that are located on the north side of the street.

## Via Della Villa di Lucina

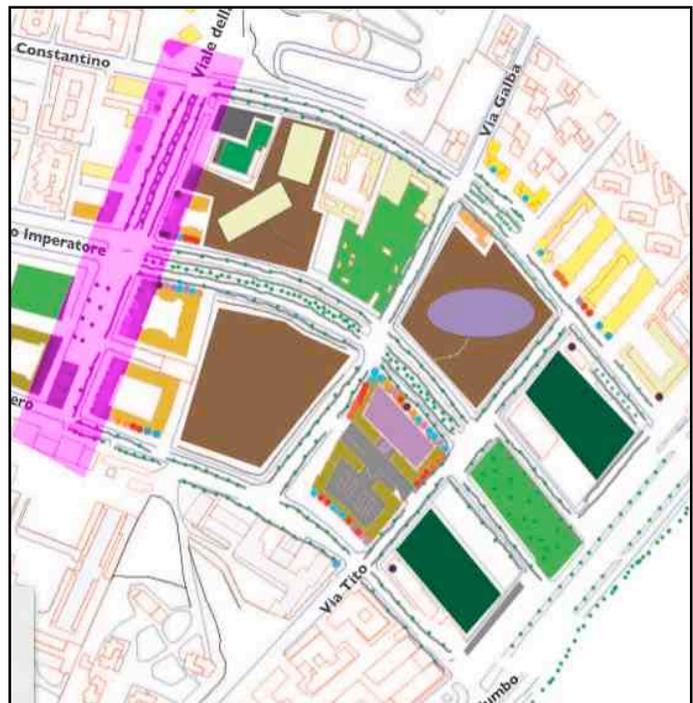
This wide street has one of the most odd formations in the neighborhood. Perpendicular to via Giustiniano Imperatore and making up the West edge of the neighborhood, this street is drastically different on its north and south sides (separated by via Giustiniano Imperatore). The North side of the street is separated by a median with trees that is surrounded on either side by parked cars as are the outer edges of the street creating four rows of parking and two small one way driving streets surrounded by these cars. The South side has been recently turned into almost a piazza with limited traffic allowed through and a median that has been paved with smooth stone and new trees and benches have been added. The street centers perfectly on the San Paolo Religious Society Dome that is on the block south of via Alessandro Severo, however, this is the back of the Society complex and no one is ever seen entering or exiting from this building. There is a small amount of parking allowed on the Southwest corner of the street but other than that, this south side of the street has become a piazza surrounded by a number of crooked buildings and overlooking the vacant lot on the east side.

### *Description*

#### *Street Type*

Between Viale Giustiniano Imperatore and via Constantino, via della Villa di Lucina is a boulevard, with a tree-lined central meridian separating lanes of traffic going both directions.

Between Viale Giustiniano Imperatore and via Alessandro Severo, via della Villa di Lucina functions as a one-way street, although it was originally constructed as a boulevard. Due to construction on the southbound traffic street, this side of the street is no longer able to be used for car traffic. It seems that the automobile disuse of this section of the street is permanent and will be reused as pedestrian space.





*Sidewalks/State of repair*

The Sidewalks on via della Villa di Lucina are new with minimal damage.

*Traffic Intensity*

Via della Villa Lucina has relatively low traffic, which can be attributed to the recently built park that converted the south side of the street from a two-way street to a one-way street.

*Cars/Moped Parking*

There is heavy parking on via della Villa Lucina, with parking spaces lining the sidewalks and the central meridians on both sides of the street. Double parking is also prevalent on this street.

*Trees and Shrubbery*

Large trees line the middle and outsides of via della Villa di Lucina. The North side of the street has perennial shrubbery outlining the space used by the public pool complex.



*Noise Level*

Despite the park, noise levels are low on via della Villa di Lucina.

*Building Typology*

Via della Villa di Lucina consists of six mixed-use residential buildings, a park and one residential building.

*Social Environment*

With a park to the West and an open space for people to congregate, the Southern side is relatively more populated than the North side. The North side has a café on the West side of the street where people will sit and visit.

## Via Galba

Via Galba is West of via Tito running parallel. This street is mainly focused on the empty lot and the unoccupied hotel. It also has the other side of the entrance to the CONAD supermarket and parking lot.

### Description

#### *Street Type*

Via Galba is a two-way street, with one lane designated for both directions.

#### *Sidewalks/State of repair*

The sidewalks are narrow and have some weather and usage damage, making it walkable but somewhat unstable.

#### *Traffic Intensity*

Traffic is relatively high on via Galba, with automobiles transferring between Viale Giustiniano Imperatore and via Cristoforo Colombo. Also, Conad contributes to higher levels of traffic.

#### *Cars/Moped Parking*

There is car and moped parking on both sides of the street along the sidewalk.

#### *Trees and Shrubbery*

Between via Alessandro Severo and via Constantino, there are medium to large sized trees lining the side of the sidewalk on the empty lot. There is no landscaping on the side that backs onto Conad. Between via Giustiniano Imperatore and via Constantino, there are large trees lining both sides of the sidewalk.

#### *Noise Level*

Despite noise from pedestrians and cars going to and from Conad, via Galba has low levels of noise.

#### *Building Typology*

Via Galba consists of two mixed-use residential buildings, one mixed-use unique residential building, the hotel, the abandoned lot and one commercial building.

#### *Social Environment*

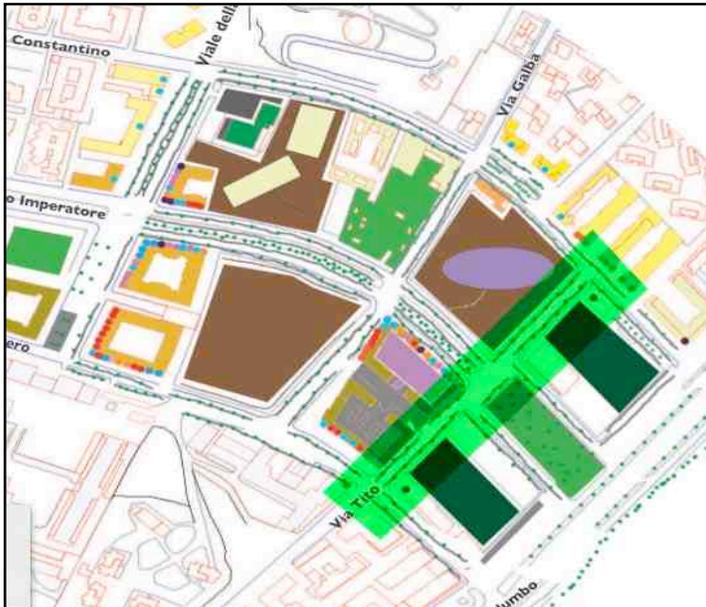
With a park on the North side of via Galba, the street itself has limited social interaction. In addition to the park, people will be walking to and from Conad. However,



there are very few interactions between these people. Besides the park and Conad, via Galba is primarily under construction, which consequently leads to a poor social environment.

## Via Tito

Via Tito is just West of via Cristoforo Colombo running parallel. The street is made up of one side with recreational facilities and green space and the other side with a number of the crooked mixed-use buildings and the unoccupied hotel. The street also opens up onto the entrance to the CONAD supermarket and parking lot that is located in the basement of one of the mixed-use buildings.



### Description

#### *Social Environment*

One can find via Tito heavily populated during the day with people shopping at Conad and kids playing soccer on the fields during the afternoon. The soccer fields on the East side of the street present opportunity for people to meet, but the West side consists of shops and the Hotel that is under construction.

#### *Street Type*

Via Tito is a one-way street with two lanes of traffic.

#### *Sidewalks/State of repair*

The sidewalks along via Tito are of varying quality. Between Viale Giustiniano Imperatore and via Constantino, via Tito has narrow sidewalks with a poor state of repair. There were many cracks, potholes, and other damage prevalent on the paved sidewalk on both sides of the street.

Between Viale Giustiniano Imperatore and via Alessandro Severo, the sidewalks on the side of the sports field have some use and weather damage but are still walkable. However, the sidewalks between Viale Giustiniano Imperatore and the Conad grocery store are extremely narrow and damaged, to the point of being barely walkable. On this side of the street between via Alessandro Severo and the Conad store, the sidewalk quality is much better, equivalent to the state of the sidewalks on the other side of the street.

#### *Traffic Intensity*

Via Tito has relatively high traffic intensity. It is used primarily as a means to connect via Giustiniano Imperatore and via Cristoforo Colombo.



### *Cars/Moped Parking*

Cars and Mopeds are parked along both sides of the street along the sidewalk with some double parking. There was also some moped parking on the sidewalks.

### *Trees and Shrubbery*

Medium-sized trees (10-20 feet tall) line both sides of the sidewalks on via Tito between Viale Giustiniano Imperatore and via Constantino. Between Viale Giustiniano Imperatore and via Alessandro Severo, medium-sized trees are only present along the edge of the sidewalk backing the sports fields. There is no other landscaping other than the landscaped trees.

### *Noise Level*

Via Tito has a moderately high level of noise. This can be attributed to pedestrians walking to Conad, vehicles and sporting fields that are active in the afternoon.

### *Building Typology*

Via Tito consists of two commercial buildings, three sporting fields, a park, the hotel and one recreational building.

## Via Cristoforo Colombo

Via Cristoforo Colombo is a highway-like street that runs to the EUR. It is a clear barrier to the Giustiniano Imperatore neighborhood as its many lanes of busy traffic separate it. The businesses that are located on this street face it rather than facing in towards the rest of the neighborhood and a number of public sports facilities buffer this busy street from the rest of the residential buildings on the other side of via Tito (as you can see on Map 3). This street seems to be mostly an edge versus a part of the Giustiniano Imperatore neighborhood.



### *Description*

#### *Street Type*

Via Cristoforo Colombo is a large Boulevard, with five lanes of traffic going each direction. The two directions are separated by a landscaped central meridian with grass and large trees (over 20 feet) and concrete walls (4 feet tall) on both sides of this main meridian. Three lanes of traffic are separated from the two other lanes on both sides of the street with another landscaped meridian. These two meridians are landscaped with large trees, as well as shrubs and grass but do not have the same short wall lining both sides.



### *Sidewalks/State of repair*

The sidewalks on via Cristoforo Colombo are walkable and in good condition. There is a walking path on the side of northern-bound traffic in good condition. There is a narrow and walkable sidewalk with some damage between the traffic and the parking lot; there is another narrow yet walkable sidewalk between the parking lot and the sports field. There are no sidewalks on the meridians.

### *Traffic Intensity*

Via Cristoforo Colombo has heavy traffic, with traffic lights at each intersection.

### *Cars/Moped Parking*

There is no parking availability along the northern-bound traffic lanes. On the southern-bound side, there is a large parking lot available along the outside two lanes, separated by a narrow sidewalk, and backing one of the sports fields.

### *Trees and Shrubbery*

The meridians along via Cristoforo Colombo are very landscaped with large trees, shrubbery, and grass. This landscaping is both attractive and well maintained.

### *Noise Level*

Noise levels are very high on via Cristoforo Colombo. This is due to the eight-way boulevard and the market.

### *Building Typology*

Via Cristoforo Colombo consists of one recreational building, four sporting fields, one park and one mixed-use residential building.

### *Social Environment*

There is no pedestrian action on the West side of via Cristoforo Colombo minus people walking to and from their cars. The East side, in contrast, has a walkable path that people use to get to the open-air market. The market is a great place to meet with people while buying fruits, vegetables, electronic goods and clothing.



Sources:

Google Maps

Neighborhood Survey Research Instrument (from Prof. Greg Smith)

Additional Photos (Claire Moser and Shannon Holm)

# REVIEW OF INFRASTRUCTURE

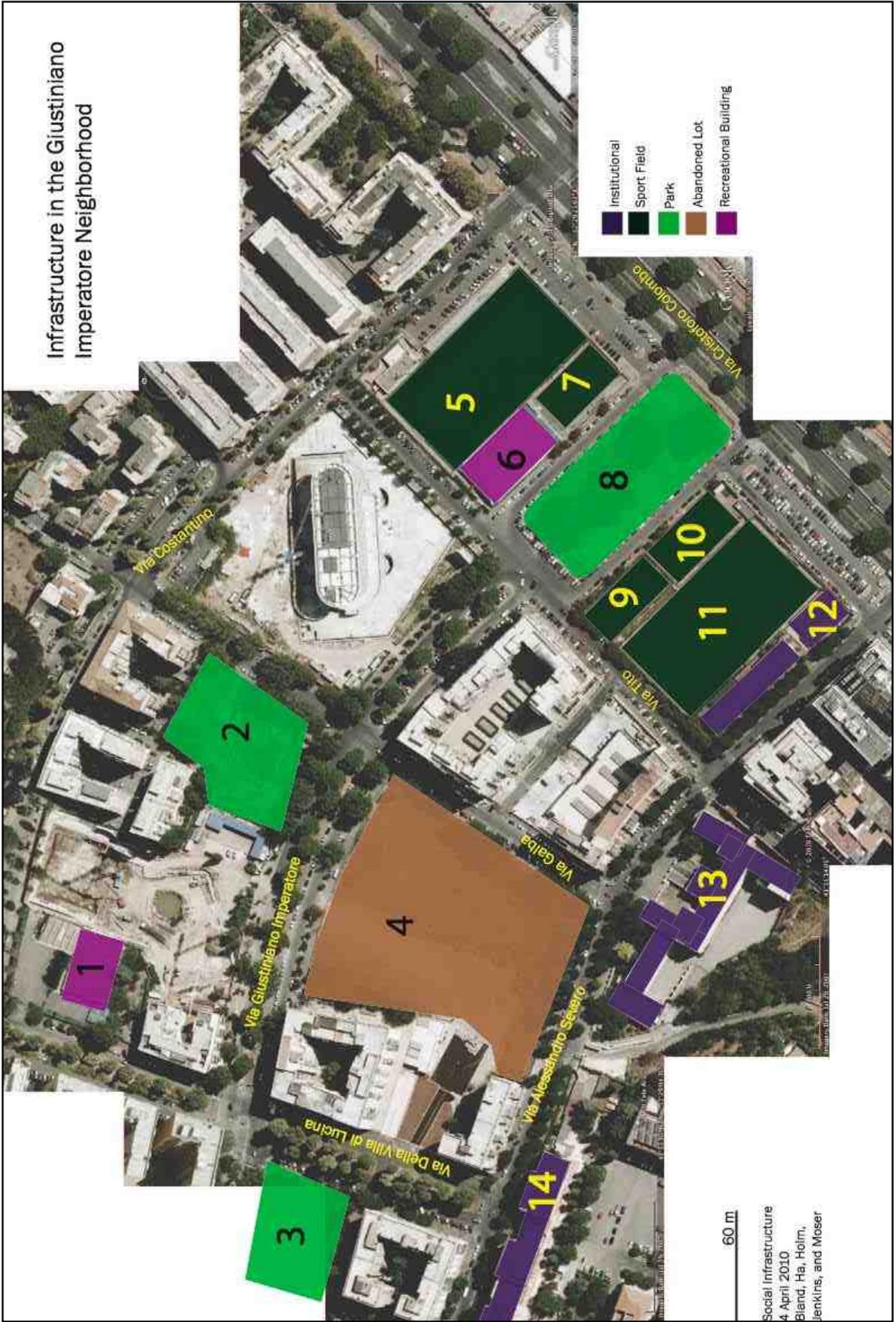
## *Giustiniano Imperatore*

Our review of infrastructure includes community facilities and transportation links. Our observations of the infrastructure support that the Giustiniano Imperatore neighborhood has a great amount of potential for a healthy community, as it is well linked to the rest of the city and it provides its residents with opportunities for exchanges in the park and athletic activities. However, a closer review of the infrastructure suggest that many users of the space our residents of other neighborhoods, as they are able to travel easily to, from, and through Giustiniano Imperatore. In conclusion, it appears that the infrastructure actually reflects the area as an area for use, but not necessarily for community cohesion.

## Community Infrastructure

The neighborhood of Giustiniano Imperatore offers a large selection of activities through its infrastructure. The map on the next page shows open spaces, athletic infrastructure, and religious and cultural infrastructure, all within six blocks.

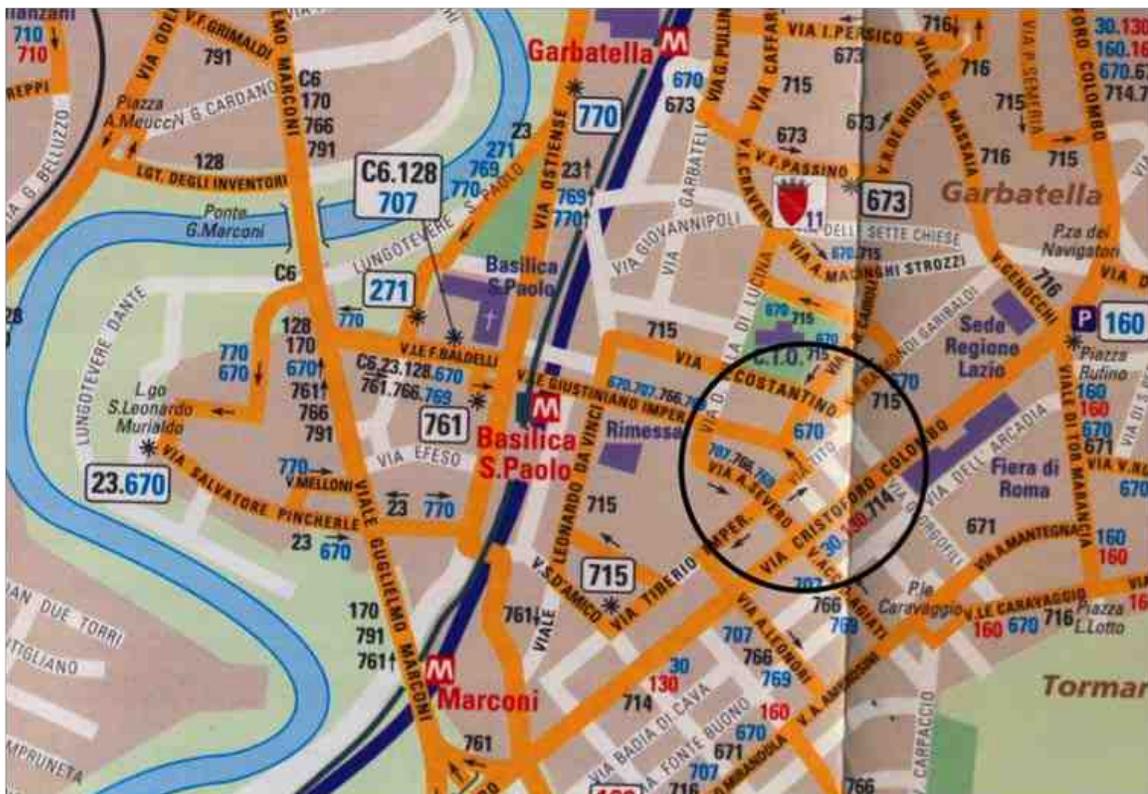
# Infrastructure in the Giustiniano Imperatore Neighborhood



- 1. Public swimming pool
- 2. Public park
- 3. Gated park
- 4. Large vacant space
- 5. Soccer field
- 6. Indoor skating rink
- 7. Small playing field
- 8. Public park
- 9. Small playing field
- 10. Small playing field
- 11. Soccer field
- 12. Community center
- 13. Public middle school and technical school
- 14. The society of San Paolo

## Transportation Infrastructure

The infrastructure of Giustiniano Imperatore provides the neighborhood with convenient connections to the rest of the city as well as to the major train stations of Rome. The neighborhood is located right off of Rome's Metro B on the Basilica San Paolo stop. Additionally, there are three main bus stops within the boundaries of the area we surveyed that service seven different bus lines – 670, 707, 766, 769, 30, 130 and 714. The metro stop is only two blocks away and serves as the main access point to the center of the city but additionally Bus 30 goes directly to the center of the city stopping at Piazza Venezia, Corso Vittorio Emanuele and Piazza Cavour. Bus 766 ends its route in one direction at the Trastevere bus station and Bus 714 ends its route at Termini passing S. Giovanni in Laterano and Santa Maria Maggiore. Via Cristoforo Colombo also provides the neighborhood with a fast easy connection as a major highway in Rome as a connection to the EUR, Garbatella and other areas of the city. On the other hand, Via Giustiniano Imperatore on the East/West axis, serves mainly a local function leading from Via Cristoforo Colombo to the Metro line. At the line, it goes under the tracks, next to the Basilica S. Paolo and turns into Viale Ferdinando Baldelli connecting to the area focused around Università degli Studi Roma Tre and Via Ostiense that runs from Garbatella to the Western edge of the EUR.



Source: ATAC, Roma

# PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION

## Graffiti and Signs

Characteristic of Roman neighborhoods, we observed communist and romantic graffiti. Signs and posters were mostly falling apart and were not updated or maintained.



Signs falling apart and not regularly updated.



Romantic graffiti around the school and communist graffiti around the rest of the neighborhood.



Large signs in the southeast section, close to Via Cristoforo Colombo, are regularly updated and geared towards the large road.

## Sidewalk and Plant Condition

Most sidewalks had weeds and garbage collecting near the bases of trees or showed signs attention (construction tape) but did not show any change throughout our weeks of observation. Even the new pedestrian area, shown on the bottom left, showed signs of decay.



Plants at bases of trees are generally weeds and dirt, with garbage collecting.



Sidewalk material is a type of asphalt that is not maintained frequently.



On the left, the new pedestrian area contrasts against its continuation on the right.

## Urban Landscape Views

The urban landscape of Giustiniano Imperatore is characterized by a low density of large buildings. They range in material and style, and make for an interesting walk through the streets.



At several places, it is possible to see across the entire area. For instance, the new development (left) and the Societe of San Paolo (right)



Large, imposing buildings of the hotel, the indoor skating rink, and the Societe of San Paolo dominate the landscape.



The school (left) is set back from the Via Alessandro Severo (right).

# LYNCH ANALYSIS

## *Giustiniano Imperatore*

### General Overview

Kevin Lynch's methodology and typology is a useful apparatus to employ in attempting to organize the surroundings of Giustiniano Imperatore and to structure and identify the neighborhood. We came up with a collective Lynch map as a group based on our collective observations and conceptions of the neighborhood. We then asked seven different local residents and business owners to come up with their own individual Lynch maps for cross-analysis. Presented below are the our group's overarching impressions of Giustiniano Imperatore and more specific descriptions of the different aspects of the Lynch map.

The Giustiniano Imperatore neighborhood is surrounded by Garbatella to its north and E.U.R. to its south. More specifically, most of the space in the south edge is occupied by the wall of Societa San Paolo, which is a religious organization. This wall leads to the entrance of a gated community – an irregular locale within our neighborhood – and eventually to the middle and technical schools in Giustiniano Imperatore. To the southeast edge, we find clusters of outdoor parking lots right along the busy highway of Cristoforo Colombo. On the contrary, to the north edge, the landscape naturally elevates until we see Ospedale CTO Alesinia (orthopedic trauma hospital) which is situated right on top of the hill.



### **Path**

One of our primary paths is Via Giustiniano Imperatore, which leads from the metro (west edge of the neighborhood) to Via Cristoforo Colombo (east edge of the neighborhood) which is primarily a vehicular path. Via Giustiniano Imperatore is our primary pedestrian path because it comes logically from the metro station into the centre of our area. Via della Villa di Lucina is a vehicular path that cuts vertically through Giustiniano Imperatore, which connects Garbatella up the hill to the north. The pedestrian space on the southwestern edge is less of a path and more of a node because of the people who congregate use the space to walk to their appropriate destinations. Another primary path is Via Constantino, which leads to Via Cristoforo Colombo right along the north edge of our neighborhood. This path is used by pedestrians because of the extensive network of street level shops and residential spaces.

### **Node**

Our principal node is the pedestrian-friendly re-developed avenue situated along Via della Villa di Lucina. This space is mostly populated with the older population of Giustiniano Imperatore, and part of the reason might be due to the new children's playground being locked up which prevents any chance of the younger population occupying the area. Another important node for us is the school supply shop located in the southwest corner of the neighborhood. This location is used by local parents to pick-up and drop-off their children to the school located right across the supply shop.

### **Landmark**

Based on our impressions of Giustiniano Imperatore, we identified three landmarks. It is interesting to note that all three sites are negatively defined areas. One of the three landmarks is the open vacant space situated in the heart of the neighborhood (surrounded by Via della Villa di Lucina, Via Giustiniano Imperatore, Via Galba, Via Alessandro Severo). This space is a defining feature of the area and perhaps also symbolizes the state of abandonment in the neighborhood. Another landmark is Societe San Paolo, which is clearly visible from several different vantage points. It can be used easily to orient people and reminds them that they are facing south when the dome of the Societe is visible. The controversial abandoned 5-star Hotel building is the final landmark, which is – like Societe San Paolo – a highly visible building. Although it is inaccessible to the public at the moment, it is the only modern high-rise towering over the whole neighborhood; the blindingly white exterior only helps this distinction.

### **District**

Due to the small physical area of our neighborhood, it was difficult to assign different districts inside Giustiniano Imperatore as defined by Lynch in *Images of Cities*. In addition, the negatively defined space of our neighborhood did not help us trying to divide up the area into different districts. As a result, we identified several external districts, which surround Giustiniano Imperatore; to the south is the EUR district, to the west is the Ostiense district and to the north is the Garbatella district. All of these three districts possess strong characteristics of their own and overshadows Giustiniano Imperatore being identified as a distinctive neighborhood of its own.

## Field Observations

Our neighborhood can be accessed from Largo Argentina by taking a bus to either the Colosseum or Termini subway stop, and taking the subway to the Basilica San Pietro stop. The metro stop is about a hundred meters away from Via Leonardo da Vinci, which is the first edge of our assigned neighborhood. Via Leonardo da Vinci divides our neighborhood from the commercial area near the Metro stop and leads to Roma Tre. On a typical day, we use Via Giustiniano Imperatore (G.I.) as our primary path and we walk until we reach our main node at the corner of Via della Villa di Lucina and Via G.I.

This is an obvious node because it is pedestrian friendly, has large trees, solid stone benches built into a walkway, has various shops surrounding it, and is easily accessible. From here, the most notable characteristics are the crooked and cracked apartment buildings as a result of the geographical instability of the neighborhood. Giustiniano Imperatore is located between two big valleys to the south and the north and the high water table disrupts the formation of firm soil bed underneath the earth. Though the buildings look cared for, reflected by plants on balconies, the consequences of a high water table makes them appear hazardous and decrepit. Standing on our node, facing south, we get a clear view of the Societe San Paolo, which we use a landmark to orient ourselves. Naturally, this pulls us down Via della Villa di Lucina, where scattered scaffolding tells a story about renovations to buildings marked with imperfections such as vertical cracks in the facade. About halfway down this street, a comprehensive view of our neighborhood unfolds. From here, we look to the left and over a parking lot, a large empty grassy area sits. This contested space is juxtaposed with a brilliantly white hotel, an uninvited guest strangely placed between more slanted residential apartment buildings. The hotel looks gaudy, but impressive nonetheless in our direct line of sight, about 300 meters away. From this vantage point, we can survey the whole neighborhood and see that the landscape starts to slope down towards the right using Via Galba as our reference point.

As we walk along Via Alessandro Severo, towards Via Cristoforo Colombo our attention is pulled to a carefully resurfaced façade, boasting a bright yellow paint. However, this moment of joy abruptly ends as we recall the back of the building, seen previously. Plaster is falling off and rain streaks are visible against the grime. Sadly, this building is evocative of many other buildings in our neighborhood. This street contains two important nodes - the school and the school supply shop, which we use to regroup after finishing individual assignments. These nodes are easily identifiable thanks to the mobile 3 building which towers over the whole neighborhood - an obvious landmark we use to orient ourselves.

At the end of Via Alessandro Severo, busy automobiles quickly whiz by Via Cristoforo Colombo - a sharp contrast to the relative calmness of our neighborhood. Via Cristoforo Colombo is a major artery of Rome, which connects our neighborhood directly to E.U.R., Garbatella, Central Rome, and the Circonvallazione Meridionale ring road. Walking through Via Cristoforo Colombo, we notice a district to our left occupied by several football fields, covered sports centre and a big square filled with trees as discussed earlier in the Street Survey section. After walking for about 300 meters, we turn left back towards the metro stop on Via Constantino. Once again, walking along Via Constantino is a sharp contrast to Via Cristoforo Colombo as there are relatively small amount of automobiles driving on the road. The newly built 5-star hotel landmark - which we discussed in the earlier section - to the left looks somewhat imposing, but still serene with the white exterior blending into the

neighborhood and blue skyline. We turn left to Via Galba, which is sloped downwards and we bear right along Via Giustiniano Imperatore. The empty lot to our right is a contested space between the city who sees its potential and the residents who think it is abandoned. It is a clear landmark right at the centre of the neighborhood, which we use to acquaint ourselves.

# INTERVIEWS

*Giustiniano Imperatore*

## Purpose and Methodology for Informal Interviews

We began interviewing people informally by setting our goals on talking with a diverse selection of people. Our ideal selection was to talk to people doing different activities: working, shopping, conversing at a café, working, exiting or entering an apartment building, and walking on the street. We chose to first talk to a variety of neighborhood users to understand common themes of perceived issues or strengths, and therefore better prepare questions for more formal interviews.

The results of the people we talked to and the activities they were doing correspond to our observations of few people simply walking, shopping, or enjoying others company during the day. Most are working in shops waiting for clients.

Collectively, the interviews told a story of a residual area, overlooked and abandoned. People who worked within the streets of our study, lived outside and often did not identify with any nodes or landmarks within the streets. People who lived inside often left for work and found few points of interest near their apartment building. Major landmarks that people mentioned were the Metro station, Fiera Roma (a convention center), FAO Parco, and the San Paolo Basilica. All are more than a five minute walk from the place of the interview. From the discussions with residents and employees, we began to understand our assigned area from the perspective of its users; lacking an identity, name, and cohesive bond.

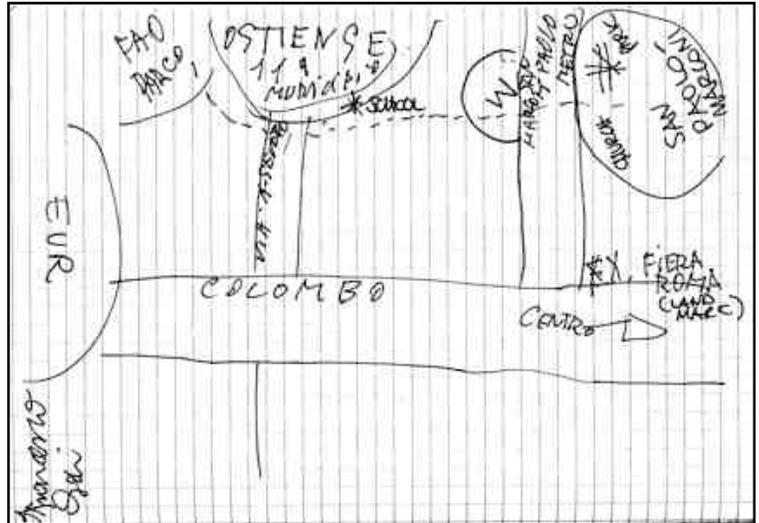
Below, please find five Lynch maps gathered through informal interviews with a porter, a resident, a car mechanic, a shop owner, and a Café owner. Below each map is a short description of issues with the neighborhood that arose as they described and drew their map for us.

## Results and Maps

*Note: Names have been changed for confidentiality.*

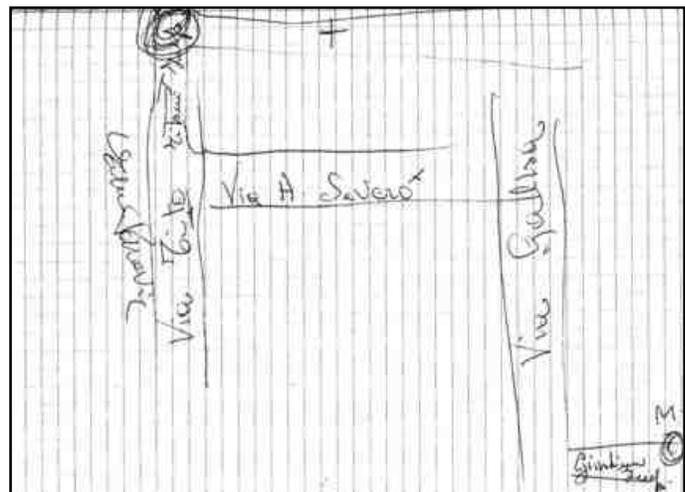
### Luca

Luca lives on Via Alessandro Severo. Though he has lived here for thirty years, he says the area has no name and is instead referred to it as “Ostiense-E.U.R.” Luca walks everywhere or walks to public transit, unless he is visiting his son across town in which case he drives. When asked where he walks to, he mentioned the FAO park and the park near the Basilica, both farther away than the three parks located within a block from his building. As a landmark he sited the Fiera Roma, a convention show room. Hoping to learn about the Conad super grocery store, we asked his opinion about it. He said he prefers to shop there because of its proximity and convenience. He mentioned Conad had only been present in the area for two years.



### Francesca

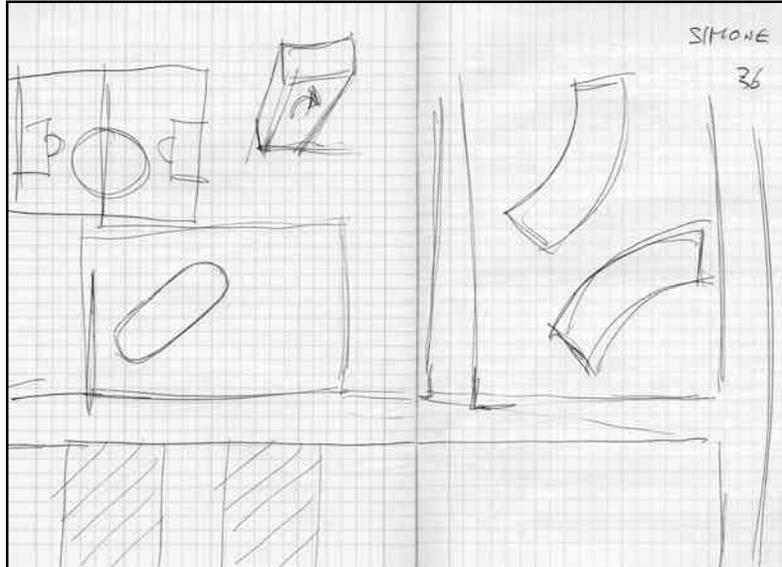
Francesca is a shop owner on Via Alessandro Severo and does not live within the neighborhood. She spends most of her time in her shop on Via Alessandro Severo. As her shop is located directly across from the school, she sells school supplies and consequently opens half an hour before school ends and closes long after it has ended. We learned that she does not leave her shop during the day. For example, she has the pizzeria down the street deliver lunch to her. Similar to Elena, Francesca seemed to not notice the large vacant space just down the street. When asked to draw a Lynch map, Francesca was busy and therefore had little time to talk about her perceptions of the neighborhood at large. Also, she was intimidated by the task. Her resulting map reflects her activity in the neighborhood, limited and defined by the Metro and the Church. It surprised us all that she did not include the school, despite that being the sole reason her business was located on Via A. S.





### **Stefano**

Stefano owns a Café in building 8 on Via Constantino, across from the Hotel. We chose to approach him for a schematic map drawing because his Café is unique from others in the area. It has a modern, sleek, white design, not unlike the style of the Hotel across the street. Inside, Stefano displays newspapers, books, and magazines that all focus on



design, and in particular, architecture. Thus, we felt his interest in architecture and design may offer a fresh perspective about the development in the area. He told us that about five years ago he bought the corner space and began to renovate it, knowing that there was both a redevelopment project and hotel construction happening. Stefano was anticipating increased use and a new life in the neighborhood. Unfortunately, by the time he opened, both projects had slowed down. He did not discuss with us exactly how his business was doing; however he did say he would not recommend to a friend to open a business here.

Stefano's map shows that he is focused on the redevelopment of the area. He drew two curving buildings from the "butterfly plan" when in reality there is only one curving building realized. He is well aware of the plans for the area and also the problems, reflected in the three-dimensional building with an arrow on it, symbolizing the precarious slant of most of the older buildings in the vicinity. Please see map on next page.

### **Furniture Shop Owner**

One beautiful sunny morning we found ourselves in conversation with the owner of a furniture shop in our neighborhood. He was more than happy to answer our spontaneous questions, and told us that the large recreational building we had thought was an indoor basketball court, was actually an indoor skating rink. We switched the subject of the conversation to the current state of his business and he informed us that while it had been only recently when he relocated to this location, the business was doing very well. He credited much of this success to his proximity to Via Cristoforo Colombo, situated right across his shop. He explained to us that many of his customers stop by after driving along Via Cristoforo Colombo. As we were saying our goodbyes, we noticed that the door-frame was misaligned and this opened up an interesting discussion about the high water table. To our surprise, he informed us that it was nothing serious or dangerous. In conclusion, this informal interview allowed us to focus our thematic interests; the high water table, the polarities in business success, and the negatively defined space.

## Formal Interviews

In addition to informal interviews and Lynch map exercises, we also conducted two formal interviews; one with La Città dell'Utopia, a community association, and one with Patrizia Ricci, the Director of Municipio XI. Both interviews gave us a completely fresh perception of an area that through our empirical observations and informal interviews, we had gathered to be an area of relative low community cohesion and enthusiasm. Instead, we learned that the La Città dell'Utopia provides opportunities for growth and development, and that the Municipio XI is working hard to redevelop the area so it is structurally safe and aesthetically pleasing.

### **La Città dell'Utopia**

La Città dell'Utopia is a community that is based on developing social capital, inclusion and solidarity. It is housed in Casale Garibaldi, about three blocks outside of our study area, close to the Basilica de San Paolo metro stop. One of the members showed us around the community building and told us about the different learning events and community events. For example, there is an annual soup festival, which attracts hundreds of participants across the Municipio, ultimately looking to foster community cohesiveness and participation. Throughout the year they provide space for community members hosting cultural events within the Municipio and ultimately seeks to promote multiculturalism, international solidarity and connection between local and global issues. Through this meeting, we witnessed firsthand the efforts grassroots groups were making to give a sense of identity to their community; something we did not observe in previous fieldwork sessions.

### **Municipio XI**

The Director of Municipio XI, Patrizia Ricci, met with us to discuss the plans for the Giustiniano Imperatore Neighborhood. Ms. Ricci presented the most recent city-plan for the area – the Butterfly Plan (depicted below) as well as a temporary plan for the vacant lot located in the center of the neighborhood. One of the buildings from the plan has been completed as well as the half of Viale villa di Lucina as a wide piazza-like street with benches, trees and pedestrian areas. The city is also interested in the empty lot that is across from the middle school. They have been working with the students at the school to develop a temporary public space for the community. Interestingly, the Municipio building was intended to be constructed on the large vacant lot, though is now located in the periphery of Municipio XI. Now, the city's long term plans for the vacant lot are to eventually build new apartment buildings on the lot for the residents that are currently living in the crooked dilapidated buildings next to it. However, the new buildings are not likely to be constructed because in order to do so, everyone who lives in the old ones would have to agree to move and invest in the construction of the new apartment buildings.

# Analysis and Conclusion

## *Giustiniano Imperatore*

### Conclusion

Throughout our study, we investigated different methods of data and information collection in order to comprehensively understand the neighborhood and the issues facing it. We found a disconnect from how we view the neighborhood, how different users of the space view it, and how government officials and investors view it. Each perspective is shaped by its personal connection and involvement in its future. We attempted to understand it objectively and gain a deep understanding of the different objectives through our different methods of looking at the area. In conclusion, we have come to understand it as an area with great potential because of the complexity of its issues.

Due to the negatively defined historical context of Giustiniano Imperatore, issues have developed involving vacancy, large-scale development and public spaces. The existence of large areas of vacancy, such as the open lot and ground floor shop openings, overwhelm the neighborhood and create a lack of both social and economic activity. Large open and green spaces exist in the neighborhood and have the potential for community members to promote social interaction and recreational activities. However, this potential is unmet due to the disconnect between residents and their environment. The hotel project is an important example of failing large-scale development in Giustiniano Imperatore. This vacant building has taken up a block of the neighborhood for the past three years without no concrete future plans. The lack of a unity within the residents of the neighborhood has contributed to this inaction while consequently the neighborhood loses economic vitality. This overwhelming vacancy and failing large-scale development is partially the result of the residual nature of Giustiniano Imperatore. This unidentifiable nature of the neighborhood exists physically in its construction of buildings and lack of businesses while this is evident socially through the residents that identify with other areas rather than their own.

As the current city plans, specifically the “butterfly” plan, have clearly become outdated with the construction of large building projects, the city has had to start searching for different ways to approach the neighborhood and change the development of the community. The city has begun to focus on the large empty lot as a starting point for turning the community around. However, with only temporary aspirations in sight, such as turning the area into a temporary green space planned by students of the middle school, the municipal government has yet to make any significant additions to the area. Continued effort on the part of the municipal government could drive the neighborhood away from its current lack of identity as a residual space and towards an area with a community and identity - whether through focusing on the large vacant spaces and buildings, or updating the overall plan to incorporate community interaction and participation.

Further research could explore the vacant shops and their relationship to large-scale development projects like Conad as well as the potential of these numerous public spaces to provide facilities for community interaction and civic engagement. Additionally, the prospects for city intervention in the neighborhood should be explored.

# APPENDIX

## *Giustiniano Imperatore*

### Schedule

We conducted field research throughout the months of February and March of 2010 arriving in the neighborhood by the Metro - Basilica San Paolo stop and walking along Via Giustiniano Imperatore until we reached our neighborhood. Often we would split up and conduct street surveys and interviews separately in groups of two and three to be more efficient.

The following are the field research days and basic methodology for each.

Thursday Feb 11:

Initial walk of neighborhood accompanied by Claudia  
- Beginning of street survey

Thursday Feb 18:

Street surveys – accompanied by Prof. Smith  
Second Half of Day: Street surveys and interviews accompanied by Claudia  
- San Paolo Religious Society  
- Community Center near Metro station  
- Interview with man who runs the program

Thursday Feb 25:

Interviews and street surveys accompanied by Prof. Warner  
- Interview with furniture storeowner  
- Initial interview with Francesca (shop owner across from school on Via Alessandro Severo)

Monday March 1:

Separate groups  
Street surveys (Holm, Jenkins)  
Interviews with Carlotta (Bland, Ha, Moser)  
- Auto-mechanic  
- Francesca – Shop owner across from school  
- Porter of building on Via Alessandro Severo  
- Resident of building

Thursday March 4:

First Half of Day –  
Street Surveys (Holm, Jenkins)  
Interviews (Bland, Moser, Ha)  
- Initial Interview with Designer/Architect Shop Owner  
Second Half of Day –  
Interviews accompanied by Claudia (Bland, Ha, Jenkins)  
- Designer/Architect coffee shop owner  
- Pool facility

Tuesday March 15:

Accompanied by Prof. Greg Smith for basic street survey advice and additions (Bland and Moser)

Thursday March 18<sup>th</sup>:

Municipio XI Interview accompanied by Prof. Greg Smith

## Transportation: Methods of Access

**Metro B:** Rebibbia – Ponte Mammolo – S.M. del Soccorso – Pietralata – Monti Tiburtini – Quintillani – Tibertina – Bologna – Policlinico – C. Pretorio – Termini – Cavour – Colosseo – Circo Massimo – Piramide – Garbatella – **Basilica S. Paolo** – Marconi – EUR Magliana – EUR Palasport – EUR Fermi – Laurentina

**670:** Largo San Leonardo Murialdo – Vle G. Marconi – Vle F. Baldelli – **Vle Giustiniano Imperatore** – Lgo Sette Chiese – Via G. PULLINO – Cne Ostiense – Via C. Colombo – Vle Tor Marancia – Vle P.ico della Mirandola – Ple Caduti della Montagnola

**707:** Vle F. Valdelli – Via A. Ambrosini – Vle Pico della Mirandola – Vle Arte – Vle Umanesimo – Via Laurentina – Via Trigatoria – Via Redattori – Piazza V. Valgrisi (*stop is not officially listed in the neighborhood*)

**766:** Stz Trastevere – Vle G. Marconi – Vle F. Baldelli – Lgo Leonardo da Vinci – **Via A. Severo** – Via A. Ambrosini – Via Grotta Perfetta – Via Ardeatina – Via Millevoi

**769:** Ple Ostiense – Via Ostiense – Vle Giustiniano Imperatore – **Via A. Severo** – Via di Grotta Perfetta – Via Mosca – Vle Londra

**30:** Staz. Laurentina – Vle Aeronautica – **Via C. Colombo** – Vle Marco Polo – Ple Ostiense – Pza Emporio – Vza Venezia – Pza Cavour – Pza Mazzini – Ple Clodio

**130:** Ple Clodio – Vle Mazzini – Via G Ferrari – Via Lepanto – Via Cicerone – Pza Cavour – Cso Rinascimento – Lgo Argentina – Pza Venezia – Via Petroselli – Pza Voccadella Verta – Via Marmorata – Pza Porta S. Paolo – Ple dei Partigiani – Via Marco Polo – **Via C. Colombo** – Vle Beethoven – Vle America – Vle della Tecnica – Vle della Grande Muraglia – Vle Don Pasquino Borghi – Via E. Chianesi – Via Marcello Garosi – Via F. Tumiatei – Via Pontina – Via Caduti della Resistenza – Via degli Eroi di Rodi – Via degli Eroi di Cefalonia – Via G. Piermarini

**714:** Ple P.L. Nervi – **Via C. Colombo** – Vle Terme di Caracalla – Pza Porta Metronia – Pza Porta Metronia – Pza S. Giovanni in Laterano – Pza S. Maria Maggiore – Via Gioberti – Stz. Termini

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