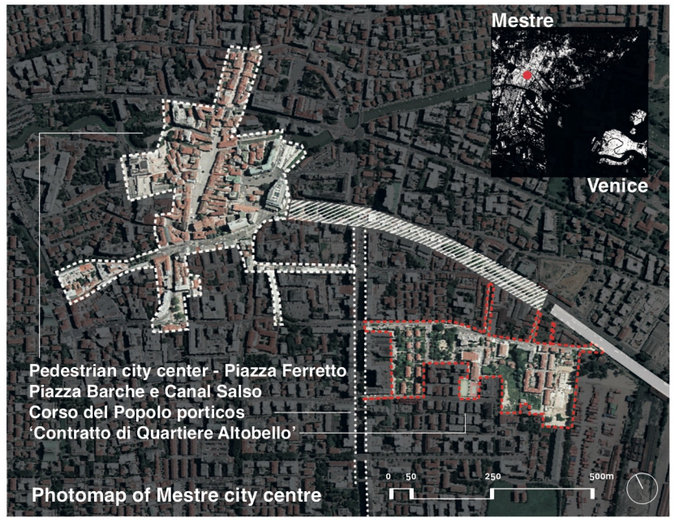
‘Contratto di Quartiere Altobello’

Urban regeneration program and Andrea Costa street pedestrianization

The most significant renovation of **‘Contratto di Quartiere Altobello’** urban regeneration program in Mestre is Andrea Costa street pedestrianization. **Does this scheme work?**
The regeneration program arose out from an active participation of the inhabitants, with which the city council stipulated **an implementation pact** - from which the name ‘Contratto di Quartiere’ - but achieving results is not self-evident.

In order to understand the outcome of the urban regeneration programme the IUAV (Architecture University in Venice) set up an **evaluation survey of the results**: a tool to acquire knowledge.
Four are the areas of investigation of the survey:
• the first area of investigation attempts to retrace the condition of the district before the transformation from the point of view of the citizens by asking them to compare their own past and current practices and habits.
• the second investigates the relationship between different population or social groups living in the neighborhood.
• the third considers the increased value of the properties and if the landlords/residents perceived any positive change and would therefore be more likely to invest compared with the past.
• the fourth deals with people’s expectations for the future and what images and auspices for the district.
Among almost 50 interviews held between June 2014 and February 2015 (3/11 months after A. Costa street construction site handover) **we choose 6 which describe the current state of the transformation process in its complexity.**



Photomap of Mestre city centre

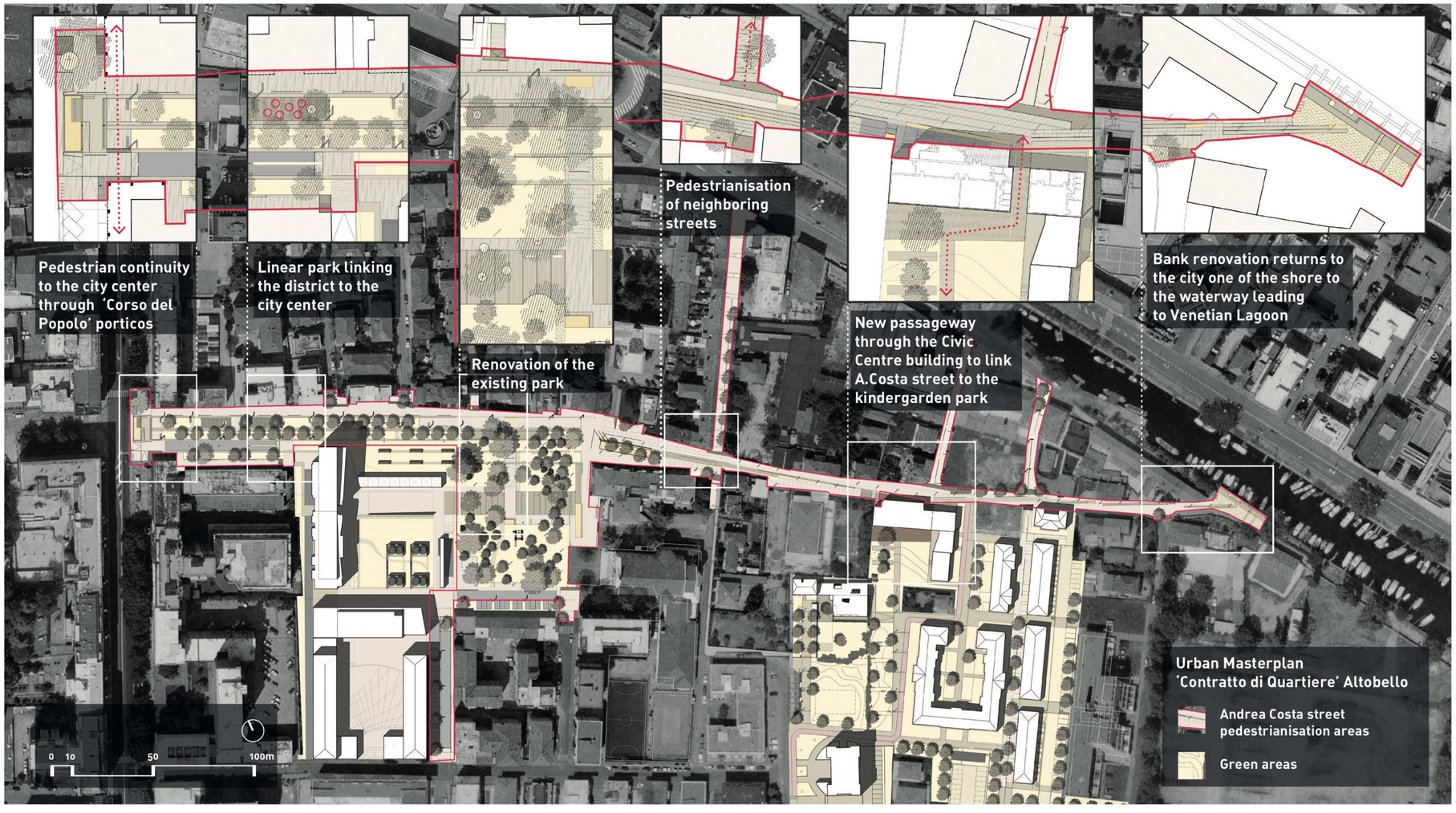
1. Once upon a time... there was ‘Macallè’

“How did it change? We live better, surely better. Andrea Costa street used to be Mestre’s parking lot, used even by the cops of the nearby police station, or by people working in offices scattered in its proximity. Today this district offers more comfort, it looks better, it is more quiet, [...] there are more services and our families feel simply better”

Maurizio, resident of the district

Andrea Costa street before renovation

1before

• Andrea Costa street pedestrianization and Madonna Pellegrina park
• Urban masterplan of ‘Contratto di Quartiere’ regeneration program in Altobello district

1after