



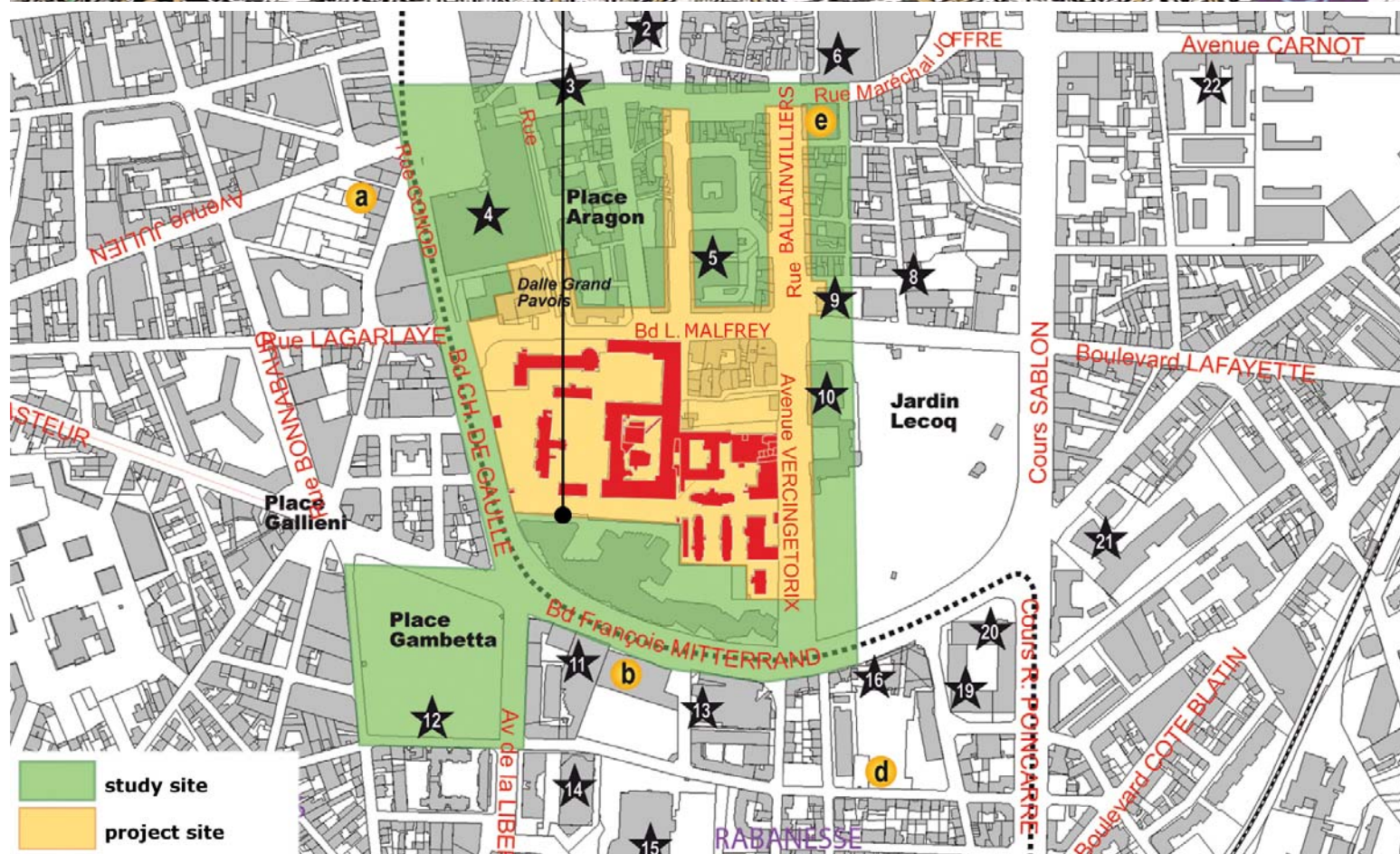
City	Clermont-Ferrand
Location	l'Hôtel-Dieu
Population	141 000 inhab.
Study site	27 ha
Site of project	8,9 ha

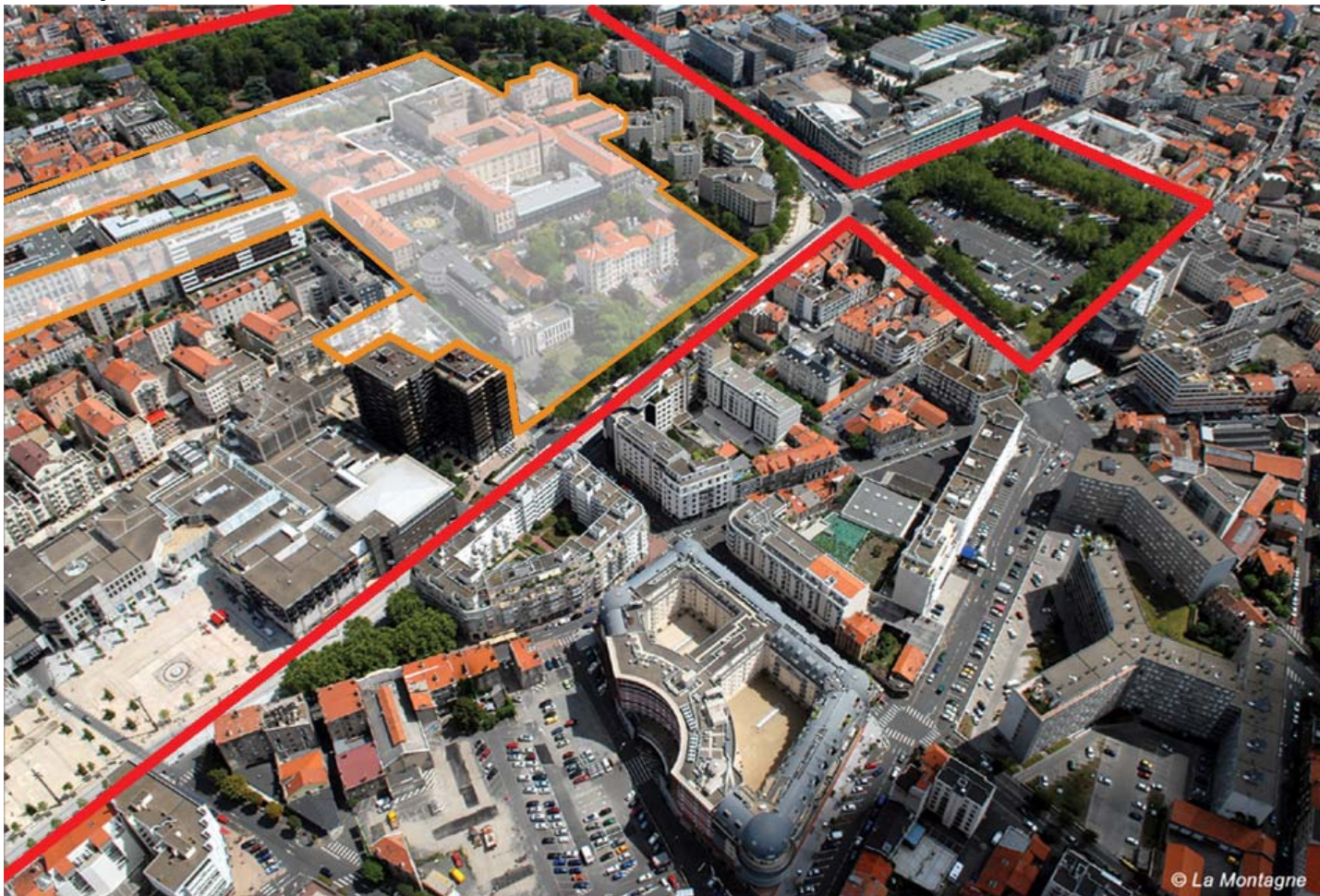
TOPIC

Clermont-Ferrand town centre, from Place de la Victoire to Place de Jaude, is now refurbished and has a tramline running through it. To the south, the Hôtel Dieu hospital complex will soon be abandoned, and in 2009 is set to be transferred to the new Estaing Hospital site. The town wishes to express its political aspirations and extend its national influence, by transforming this neighbourhood into a cultural hub, at the junction between the extended centre and Rabanesse Latin Quarter (Europan site 6). Its accessibility (tram, nonmotorised traffic routes, etc.), the refurbishment of its public spaces (courtyards, small squares, urban park), together with the creation of cultural and institutional amenities, housing and offices, will turn this space into a nexus of quality.

TERRITORIAL SCALE : CONURBATION

Situated at the heart of the Massif Central, Clermont-Ferrand is the capital of the Auvergne region. The conurbation contains more than a quarter of the region's population and is at the centre of an extensive urban zone that is home to almost half a million inhabitants. It is a nucleus for industry, services, higher education and research long dominated by the car industry (Michelin). As a result of its recent inclusion into the motorway network, the presence of a few international scale companies, the role of its university and research institutions, and its lively cultural scene, Clermont-Ferrand has real potential, which it is developing in partnership with Lyon, Saint-Etienne and Grenoble.





URBAN SCALE : STUDY SITE

The 27 hectare study site, which is within the first ring of the extended centre, has been located from the beginning on a central knoll, which looks westward to the Auvergne volcano chain. It extends from the recently renovated Place de Jaude in the north, to Place Gambetta in the south (to be renovated in the next five years). Bounded by major structural roads, it has very good access through an excellent tram service. A large part of the study site, including the actual footprint of the hospital, is strongly defined by its topography, which makes it a viewing point over the volcano chain.

Programmatic intentions

At the junction between the commercial town centre and the university district, this site is a major component in the Town's urban regeneration strategy. The emphasis will be on nonmotorised traffic and public spaces, with the aim of maintaining continuity with Place de Jaude, Place Gambetta, Lecoq Gardens, the forecourt of the Bargooin Museum, and establishing connections within the block, which will contain a mixed programme of offices, housing and public facilities.

PROXIMITY SCALE : SITE OF PROJECT

Hôtel-Dieu's late 18th-century monumental architecture established a fine ground plan and high-quality outdoor spaces (2 hectares). Today, numerous extensions have given the site a somewhat disparate character, although some of the buildings are listed.

Programmatic intentions

With its 5 hectares less than 500 metres from Place de Jaude, the Hôtel Dieu site today is the only land in Clermont-Ferrand where the town can promote its role as a tourist and cultural centre: the idea is for a mixed programme of 38,000 m² of housing and 55,000 m² of office space, along with the creation of 7,000 m² of cultural facilities to give the site structure; all these developments will be connected by nonmotorised traffic routes, which will extend the woodland atmosphere of Lecoq Gardens. Rue Ballainvilliers and its extension along Avenue Vercingétorix will form a "ramblas" or "alley of the arts" punctuated with cultural, educational and scientific amenities, linking the Latin Quarter to the hypercentre.

- study site
- project site







View of the stairs of the Cour d'Honneur (interior south facade)

photos taken at ground level showing the project site's characteristic elements



Maternity hospital and laboratory (pavillon Emile Roux)



Entrance gates Bd Charles de Gaulle - Polyclinic



Bd Lagarlaye, View towards North facade-dental faculty