



Spirit of Geneva

PICTOGRAMS

- Playground
- Public Phone
- Toilets
- Coffee shop
- Bus (Public Transport TPG)
- Tramway (Public Transport TPG)
- Passenger ferry (Mouettes Genevoises)
- Lake Geneva General Shipping Co (CGN)
- Trains
- Sports, sports centre
- Pet zoo, aviary
- Allotted gardens
- Culture (theatre, cinema, etc...)
- Library
- Museum
- Shopping center
- Parking facilities
- Park and Ride
- Park "Mobility" (Car Sharing)
- Stairway
- Underpass
- From 1 to 29, suggested itinerary for the walk
- Alternative route
- Future route
- Passenger ferry route (Mouettes Genevoises)



International Labour Organization (ILO) park



"La Pastorale"



World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) garden



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)



World Meteorological Organization (WMO) terrace

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- Arcade d'information municipale www.ville-ge.ch
1, pont de la Machine, phone +41 (0)22 311 99 70
- State of Geneva – Protocol www.geneve.ch
phone +41 (0)22 327 22 03
- United Nations Office – Geneva www.unog.ch
phone +41 (0)22 917 12 34
- Centre d'accueil – Genève internationale (CAGI) www.cagi.ch
phone +41 (0)22 918 02 70
- Mandat international – Centre d'Accueil pour les Délégations et Organisations Non Gouvernementales www.mandint.org
www.lapastorale.info, phone +41 (0)22 959 88 55
- Website international Geneva www.genevainternational.org
- Agenda of international conferences www.agenda-international.org
- Geneva public transport (TPG) www.tpg.ch
Information centre, phone +41 (0)22 308 34 34
- Taxi call centre, phone +41 (0)22 331 41 33
- Weather forecast, phone 162

URBAN FRIENDLY MOBILITY

www.ville-ge.ch/plan-pietons
www.ville-ge.ch/velo
www.mobility.ch
www.covoiturage.ch
www.geneve.ch/parkings

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OF DIALOGUE AND PEACE

Situated at the heart of Europe, Geneva, international city, place of dialogue and of peace, centre for global negotiations, has always been intimately connected to the development of international cooperation. This walking circuit links most of the international organizations and hints at the democratic and philanthropic tradition of an uncommon city.

At all times the City of Calvin has been a sanctuary for countless intellectuals and European refugees. Home to Jean-Jacques Rousseau, refuge for Voltaire, Geneva was the city where Jean-Jacques de Sellon established the Society for Peace in 1830, and Henri Dunant the Red Cross in 1863. In 1872, Gustave Moynier set forth the idea of an International Court of Justice. That same year, thanks to Switzerland's neutrality, Geneva hosted the first arbitration treaty of the Western world, the "Alabama Claims", avoiding a war between the United States and England. Three universal congresses for peace were held in the city, in 1867, 1912 and 1926. True to its international vocation, Geneva was chosen for the secretariat of the League of Nations in 1919, and the headquarters of the International Labour Organization (ILO). Following World War II, the League of Nations was replaced by the United Nations Organization (UNO) in 1946, and the European Office of the United Nations was established in Geneva.

From then on, Geneva has never ceased to expand as an international centre, home to most of the international organizations, as well as hundreds of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and some 200 diplomatic missions. From peace to Human Rights, from the environment to the workplace, from health to telecommunications, Geneva has become a major focal point of global exchanges. The coming years will reinforce this role with the establishment of the UNAIDS project and the House for Peace, as well as the implementation of the urban plans for the Square of Nations.

The "Spirit of Geneva" as it is daily embodied by some of the organizations striving for a better world is yours to discover step by step!

POUR EN SAVOIR PLUS

- Histoire et architecture du Palais des Nations (2001), Nations Unies, Geneva
- Catherine Courtiau, Inès Lamunère (1990), Encyclopédie de Genève, vol. 8, Genève, ville internationale (pp. 219-227), Association de l'Encyclopédie de Genève
- Isabelle Charollais, Jean-Marc Lamunère, Michel Nemec (1999), L'architecture à Genève 1919-1975, Direction du patrimoine et des sites, DAEL, Payot
- Brulhart Armand, Erica Deuber-Pauli (1993), Ville et canton de Genève, Arts et monuments, Berne, Benteli, 2^e édition

THE PEDESTRIAN PLAN COLLECTION

This itinerary is part of the Pedestrian Plan collection of walks conceived by the Planning Office of the City of Geneva.

- Walking in Geneva
- From estate to estate
Geneva – Bois-de-la-Bâtie - Jardin Botanique
- From site to museum
Geneva on foot – in the heart of its heritage
- From quay to runway
Geneva on foot – between travel and nature
- From city to city
Geneva on foot – from the lake to the Arve
- Walking Downstream
Geneva on foot – nature and technology
- From here and afar
Geneva on foot – between work and leisure
- From body to heart
Geneva on foot – urban planning and health
- From history to modernity
Geneva on foot – from local to international
- From cedar to cedar
Geneva on foot – between city and country

IMPRESSUM

Editor
Texts
Revision
Translation
Photography
Illustration (cover)
Design
Printed by
Circulation

• City of Geneva, in collaboration with the ONUG information department
• Alain Viaro and the Urban Planning Department
• Canton of Geneva, Sébastien Ziegler (Mandat International), Jon Herbertsson (UNOG)
• Elizabeth Fischer
• Urban Planning Department – City of Geneva
• Gilles Calza
• Ceux d'en face, Geneva
• Imprimerie Genevoise S.A., Geneva
• 50'000 copies / August 2005



1 SQUARE OF NATIONS

Several urban planning competitions attempted to remodel this virtual centre of the world since the 1930's, but each project was rejected by popular vote. In 1957 the French urban planner A. Gutton imagined a complex of hexagonal towers linked by a network of lanes at different levels. In 1995 a panel of renowned architects devised various projects, all to be rejected by the citizens in 1998. The project "Esplanade of Nations" is the one that will give a new face to the area: a square paved with granite flagstones – provided by producer countries member of the United Nations – and dotted with water fountains, lighting effects and greenery (by the ORSOL Group).

Beforehand, the famous "Broken chair" by the sculptor D. Berset stood in the square. It was offered to Handicap International as a symbol of the campaign for the elimination of antipersonnel mines around the globe.

- *Library open to employees, delegates and for research*



7 “LA PASTORALE“

The mansion "La Pastorale" was built c.1835 in the Neo-classical style. It is home to several organizations catering to the needs of Geneva's international community. The "Centre d'Accueil – Genève International" (CAGI) provides assistance to expatriates working in Geneva; the "Club Suisse de la Presse" helps journalists during their stay in Geneva and fosters exchanges between Swiss and international circles; the "Fondation pour Genève", a private organism of public interest, contributes to the city's influence; "Mandat International" and its "Centre d'Accueil pour les Délégations et Organisations Non Gouvernementales" provides information and assistance to delegates taking part in international conferences.

- *www.lapastorale.info*
- *Contact point with another walking circuit: From history to modernity*



8 BUDÉ NEIGHBOURHOOD

This part of town is a good example of urban planning in the beginning of the 1960s, with high-class residential apartments (by G. Addor, D. Julliard and Honegger Frères, 1958), community facilities, an Intercontinental hotel (by G. Addor, A. Juillard and J. Bolliger, 1961-1963) and the preservation of an old rural estate graced by century-old trees, a mansion and a farmhouse. The principles of the urban layout – long apartment blocks sheltering green open space in the middle – were set down by A. Marais, then head of Urban Planning at the Department of Public Works. With 400 rooms, conference halls and shops the Intercontinental was the biggest hotel in Switzerland at the beginning of the 1960s. Its 18 floors overlook the entire area occupied by the international organizations.

- *Contact point with another walking circuit: From history to modernity*



9 IFRC

The headquarters of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) stand on the grounds of the 18th-century estate "Les Crêts". The mansion built in 1888 was demolished around 1945, making way for an apartment block designed by the architect A. Hoechel.

The IFRC comprises all the national societies of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent around the world. The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people, to promote humanitarian values and to respond to disasters through health and community care. Its action is complementary to that of the ICRC, which focusses primarily on situations of war and conflict.

- *www.ifrc.org*



10 IPU

The headquarters of the Interparliamentary Union (IPU) are housed in the 1908 "Gardiol" mansion built by the architect M. Camoletti on "Le Pommier" (Apple tree) estate in the Grand-Saconnex neighbourhood. The IPU bought and renovated the estate in 2000. The Swiss architects bureau Brauen & Wälchli lodged a garden pavilion in the lower levels of the steep terrain in 2003.

The IPU is the international organization of Parliaments of sovereign States. As a focal point for worldwide parliamentary dialogue, it is a unique observatory of the evolution of political thought. Founded in 1889, the IPU works for peace and co-operation among peoples and for the firm establishment of representative democracy. Over 130 national parliaments are members of the Union. Over the years, eight Nobel Peace Prizes were shared by leading personalities of the IPU.

- *www.ipu.org*



11 EBU

The headquarters of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) were built in two stages. The original building was designed by the architect A. Bugna (1977), whereas the new wing, linked by a footbridge, is the work of his son J. Bugna (1994).

The EBU is the largest professional association of national broadcasters in the world. Founded in 1950, it has 72 active Members in 52 countries of Europe, Africa and the Middle East, and 50 associate Members in a further 30 countries. The EBU negotiates broadcasting rights for major sports events, organizes programme exchanges and provides a full range of other operational, commercial, technical, legal and strategic services. It operates the networks of Eurovision (50 satellite channels) and Euroradio with a potential audience of 640 million listeners.

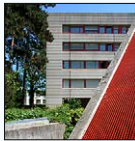
- *www.ebu.ch*



12 WCC

The World Council of Churches (WCC), built in 1965 by the architects H. Leseemann and Honegger Frères, brings together more than 340 churches in over 100 countries, representing some 400 million Christians. It includes most of the world's Orthodox and Protestant churches, as well as numerous united and independent churches. Nowadays, the bulk of its members are to be found in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America, the Middle East and the Pacific region. For its member churches, the WCC is a unique space of debate and sharing.

- *Library open to the public*
- *www.wcc-coe.org*



13 IBE AND IOM

The International Bureau of Education of UNESCO (IBE) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) are housed in the Morillon administrative centre built between 1981 and 1984 by the architects J. Nobile, A. Barokas, T. Legat, R. Frei and C. Hunziker.

Founded in Geneva in 1925 as a private institution, the IBE became in 1929 the first intergovernmental organization in the field of education. It was headed by Jean Piaget until 1968. Since 1934, the IBE has organized the International Conference on Education (ICE). It joined UNESCO in 1969. As of 1998, its functions as a "specialized centre of UNESCO in the field of learning contents, education methods and structures", focussing more specifically on education for "learning to live together".

- *Documentation centre open for research by appointment*
- *www.ibe.unesco.org*

Established in 1951, the IOM is the leading organization for migration. It acts with governments to set up policies and programmes for better migration management in the interests of all. It operates notably in the field of rapid humanitarian responses to sudden migration flows and sets up post-emergency return and reintegration programmes. It also operates in the case of exploitation, slavery and trafficking in persons.

- *www.iom.int*



14 UNAIDS

The Austrian architects bureau Baumschlager & Eberle won the international competition to build the future headquarters of UNAIDS atop Pregny, on "Les Crêts de Pregny". The modern building, surrounded by a century-old park, is due to open in 2006.

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, UNAIDS, established by several international organizations in 1996, is the main advocate for global action on HIV/AIDS. UNAIDS leads, strengthens and supports an expanded response to HIV and AIDS that includes preventing transmission of HIV, providing care and support, reducing the vulnerability of individuals to HIV and alleviating the impact of the epidemic.

- *www.unaids.org*



15 WHO

In May 1959 the 12th World Health Assembly decreed the construction of headquarters for the World Health Organization (WHO). The Swiss architect J. Tschumi won the international competition with a project that is one of the first monumental ensembles representative of the type of building designed for international organizations. Built on piles with receding glass facades at ground-floor level, the building allows the landscape to spill into it, in an attempt to unite architecture with its natural surroundings. The construction of the site between 1962 and 1964, after Tschumi death's, took place under the direction of P. Bonnard.

Established on 7 April 1948, WHO's objective is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health. It comprises 192 Member States, which make up the World Health Assembly. WHO establishes and manages numerous programmes, notably "3 by 5" which aims to provide antiretroviral treatment to 3 million people living with HIV/AIDS by 2005, the eradication of poliomyelitis, monitoring infectious diseases and providing the necessary technical assistance to reduce risks and fight against chronic diseases.

- *Library open to the public*
- *www.who.int*
- *Contact point with another walking circuit: From body to heart*



16 ILO

The International Labour Organization (ILO) took up its headquarters in Geneva in the current building of the ICRC in 1920. In 1926 the organization moved to the lakeshore in a building designed by the Swiss architect G. Epitoux (later WTO headquarters). The current ILO headquarters were built by the architects E. Beaudoin, P.-L. Nervi and A. Camenzind between 1969 and 1974.

They designed a monumental structure of 90,000 m³ of concrete reinforced by 11,000 tons of steel, with 300,000 m² of casing and 4,000 units in cast aluminium for the facade. Two-hundred metres long and 50 metres high, it houses 1,250 offices, conference halls, restaurants and an important library. The extension was built by J. Bugna in 1996.

The ILO seeks the promotion of social justice and internationally recognized human and labour rights. Founded in 1919, the organization formulates international labour standards in the form of Conventions and Recommendations in the field of labour rights: freedom of association, the right to organize and collective bargaining, the abolition of forced labour, equality of opportunity and treatment.

- *Library open to the public*

- *www.ilo.org*

- *Contact point with another walking circuit: From history to modernity*



17 ICRC

This edifice has more than one life: built by C. Boissonnas in 1876, it first was a boarding school, then the temporary ILO headquarters between 1920 and 1926, and a Carlton hotel till 1939. It houses the headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) since 1946. The Museum of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent (MICR) was built in 1988 by P. Zoelly, G.-f. Häefeli and M. Girardet after an architectural competition. Set at the foot of the ICRC, it provides an overview of the history of the world's foremost humanitarian organization.

The ICRC is a neutral and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of war and violence and to provide them with assistance. It directs and coordinates international relief activities, upholds respect of the Geneva Conventions and the strengthening of humanitarian law.

- *Documentation centre open for research*
- *www.icrc.org www.micr.ch*
- *Contact point with another walking circuit: From history to modernity*



18 PALAIS DES NATIONS (UNOG)

Built for the League of Nations between 1929 and 1936 by H.-P. Nénot, the Art Deco style Palais des Nations became the European Office of the United Nations Organization in 1946. A new wing added between 1968 and 1973 doubled its capacity. The Geneva Office constitutes the biggest conference centre in the world, housing such important international conferences as the World Health Assembly, the Human Rights Committee, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC-UNO) or the Conference on Disarmament.

The UNO strives to promote peace and security, development and Human rights, health and environmental issues. The UN Charter, ratified by 191 Member States, promotes these capital aims. In 1948, the General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. The Organization and its Secretary-General were awarded the 100th Nobel Peace Prize in 2001.

- *Library open to students and for research*
- *www.unog.ch*
- *Contact point with other walking circuits: From estate to estate, From history to modernity*



19 RIGOT ESTATE

Nearby Sécheron, an area in full change, Rigot park is soon to open to the public. A "promenade de la Paix" (avenue for Peace) will link the Rigot mansion (1767), headquarters of the Geneva International Academic Network (GIAN), the new complex of Sismondi College and the future "House for Peace". A footbridge and bicycle path designed by the architect P.-A. Dupraz will run above the train tracks to the RER stop and car park (P+R, "park and ride") of Sécheron, still under construction, and further down to the lakeshore.

- *www.ruig-gian.org*
- *Contact point with another walking circuit: From quay to quay*



20 WMO

The Genevan architects R. Brodbeck and J. Roulet designed a building filled with light and inaugurated in 1999 for the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). The building guarantees the rational use of light and energy thanks to the double glazed facade in particular which acts as a kind of thermic membrane. In keeping with the principles of sustainable development, it was designed to be as environment-friendly as possible and to heighten the quality of life in the workplace.

WMO is the UN system's authoritative voice on issues pertaining to weather, climate and water. It disposes of a network of observation stations of land, oceans and lakes as well as the atmosphere. Under its leadership, national meteorological and hydrological services give advance warnings that contribute to the protection of life and property against natural disasters as well as information contributing to social and economic development and the protection of the environment.

- *Technical library open to the public*
- *www.wmo.ch*
- *Contact point with another walking circuit: From body to heart*



21 UNICEF

The main aim of the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) is to promote the rights of children and women and to create an environment protecting them from abuse, exploitation, violence and guaranteeing their health and adequate nourishment. The same building houses other organizations such as the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GiCHD).

- *www.unicef.org*



22 CONSERVATORY AND BOTANICAL GARDENS

The Botanical Gardens lie at the bottom end of the Varembe area, on grounds bequeathed to the City of Geneva by G. Revilliod (who also gave the Ariana Museum).

Since 1904 they are known as a place of knowledge and research, with a botanical conservatory of international repute (herbarium, library, scientific institute). An arboretum, tropical hothouses, a "Garden of scents and touch", the "Terraces of official and utilitarian plants", the "Botanicum" – a didactic area specifically intended for families – as well as an animal park are all popular highlights of the 180,000 m² of gardens.

- *Gardens : April-Sept. 8 a.m. to 7.30 p.m. Oct.-March 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m.*
- *Hothouses : 9.30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Closed on Fridays*
- *www.cjb.unige.ch*
- *Contact point with other walking circuits: From estate to estate, From body to heart*



23 WTO

The World Trade Organization (WTO) occupies the former ILO headquarters in the William Rappard park. The Swiss Confederation, owner of the 18th-century estate since 1921, offered it the League of Nations in 1923. An architectural contest was held and the new building designed by the architect G. Epitoux was inaugurated in 1926, and subsequently extended several times. The last to date, a new conference hall along the rue de Lausanne, was built in 1996 by U. Brunoni. The basement of WTO contains the very rich library of the Graduate Institute for International Studies (IUHEI).

WTO's main function is to ensure that trade flows as smoothly, predictably, fairly and freely as possible. It monitors national trade policies and acts as a forum for trade negotiations. It administers trade agreements on the relevant aspects of Intellectual Property Rights as well as trade in services. It cooperates with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

- *www.wto.org*



24 BARTON PARK

The magnificent English style Barton park (45,600 m²) extends from the Perle du Lac ("Lake Jewel") estate to the William Rappard park (WTO). It was preserved thanks to Mrs. A. Barton-Peel's refusal to sell it to the League of Nations.

Bequeathed in 1935 to the Swiss Confederation it is now home to the Graduate Institute for International Studies (IUHEI).

- *Library specializing in international relations open to the public*
- *www.hei.unige.ch/bib*



25 LA PERLE DU LAC

The grounds of the former Bartholoni estate stretched over 48,900 m². Now called "La Perle du Lac" ("Lake Jewel"), it comprises a Florentine style mansion (History of Science Museum) built in 1830 along the plans of F.-E. Callet, as well as outhouses (orangery and stables) occupied by the restaurant La Perle-du-Lac since 1930.

- *Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed on Tuesdays*
- *Library open to the public by appointment*
- *www.ville-ge.ch/musinfo/mahg*
- *Contact point with other walking circuits: Walking downstream, From body to heart*



26 MOYNIER PARK

The Moynier mansion, standing on an estate of 17,991 m², was built in 1846 by the Genevan architect S. Darier for B. Paccard, Bartholoni's brother-in-law. The estate comprised a private harbour, linked to the mansion by an avenue of plane trees, as well as other houses near rue de Lausanne. Napoleon and Byron paced the hallways of the old Sécheron Inn which was part of the complex and now houses the International Solidarity Fund of Cities against Poverty.



27 MON-REPOS PARK

The Mon-Repos mansion built in 1848 was bequeathed to the City of Geneva in 1898 by the Plantamour family. The grounds thus became the first public park by the lakeshore. Nowadays, the mansion houses the headquarters of the Henri-Dunant Institute, active in humanitarian dialogue. Further along, in a small pavilion by the water's edge, a plant for the biological and physical study of the lake's waters (limnology) was set up in 1877 by the scientist P. de Plantamour.

- *Contact point with other walking circuits: Walking downstream, From body to heart*



28 HCHR (Palais Wilson)

The National Hotel built in 1875 served as headquarters for the League of Nations from 1920 to 1936. In 1874 the building was renamed "Wilson Palace" in honour of its founder, the American president T.W. Wilson. In 1988, the World Commission on Environment and Development – also called Brundtland Commission, after its president – convened there and coined the term "sustainable development". Renovated in 1993, the palace now houses the United Nations High Commission on Human Rights (HCHR). Behind it stands the Graduate Institute of Development Studies (IUED) founded in 1961 and acting as a link between Switzerland and the developing countries.

The mission of the HCHR is to promote all human rights for all, international cooperation on Human Rights, the ratification and implementation of international norms. It is headed by a High Commissioner.

- *www.unhchr.ch*
- *Contact point with other walking circuits: Walking downstream, From body to heart*



29 ITC

The International Trade Centre (ITC) is headquartered in Geneva since 1981 in a building belonging to the Building Foundation for International Organization (FIPOI). It houses offices and conference halls.

The ITC is the only international organization to focus on the development of trade in developing and transition economies . Since 1964, it has helped the business sectors to develop exports so as to achieve a level of sustainable human development.

- *Library open for research by appointment*
- *www.intracen.org*



2 UNHCR

The building of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) revolves around a glass roofed court. It was designed by a group of architects – A. Gallay, J. Berger, C. Steffen, U. Tschumi and M. Heurteux – who won an architectural competition in 1995. The small "Memorial" building fronting it was a garage designed by the innovative architect M. Brailiard.

Established in 1951, the UNHCR leads and co-ordinates international action for the protection of refugees and the resolution of refugee problems. It maintains numerous refugee camps around the globe. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. It strives to ensure their return to normal life. It promotes international conventions and monitors States' implementation of the International Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.

- *Specialized library*
- *www.unhcr.ch*

- *Contact point with another walking circuit: From history to modernity*



3 IAV

The Varembe administrative building (IAV) houses numerous organisms working with the United Nations, such as the Permanent Mission of Switzerland, the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), as well as the rooms and halls of the Conference Centre Varembe (CCV) designed by the architects J.-P. Grand, R. Praplan and P. Fischer (1969).



4 ICCG

The International Conference Centre Geneva was built by the architects A. Camenzind, A. and F. Gaillard (1971-1973). Used for international events, its conference rooms can host anywhere from 60 up to 2,000 guests. FIPOI has based its headquarters there as well.

- *www.cicg.ch www.fipoi.ch*



5 ITU

The tower of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the only extant building of the 1957 urban project for the Square of Nations area devised by the Parisian urban planner A. Gutton, comprising a series of hexagonal towers connected by elevated footbridges. The ITU tower was built by the architect A. Bordigoni in 1962. In 1999, an extension was raised on the outskirts of the Square of Nations; the big five storey industrial cube with a central court was designed by the architect J.-J. Oberson.

The ITU develops information and communication technologies and co-ordinates the development and standardization of telecommunications between countries. It establishes common norms, fosters technological developments and provides technical aid to developing countries.

- *www.itu.int*



6 WIPO

The first building of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) was designed in accordance with the general 1957 urban plan for the area by the architect P. Brailiard (1958), who also built the current incurvated tower (1974-1978). With the increase of its activity, WIPO transformed and renovated the old WMO headquarters (Favre & Guth, 2000-2003) built in 1960-1970 by E. Martin. Since then, other buildings have been added to the complex along Giuseppe-Motta avenue and a new one is to be erected along the road of Ferney.