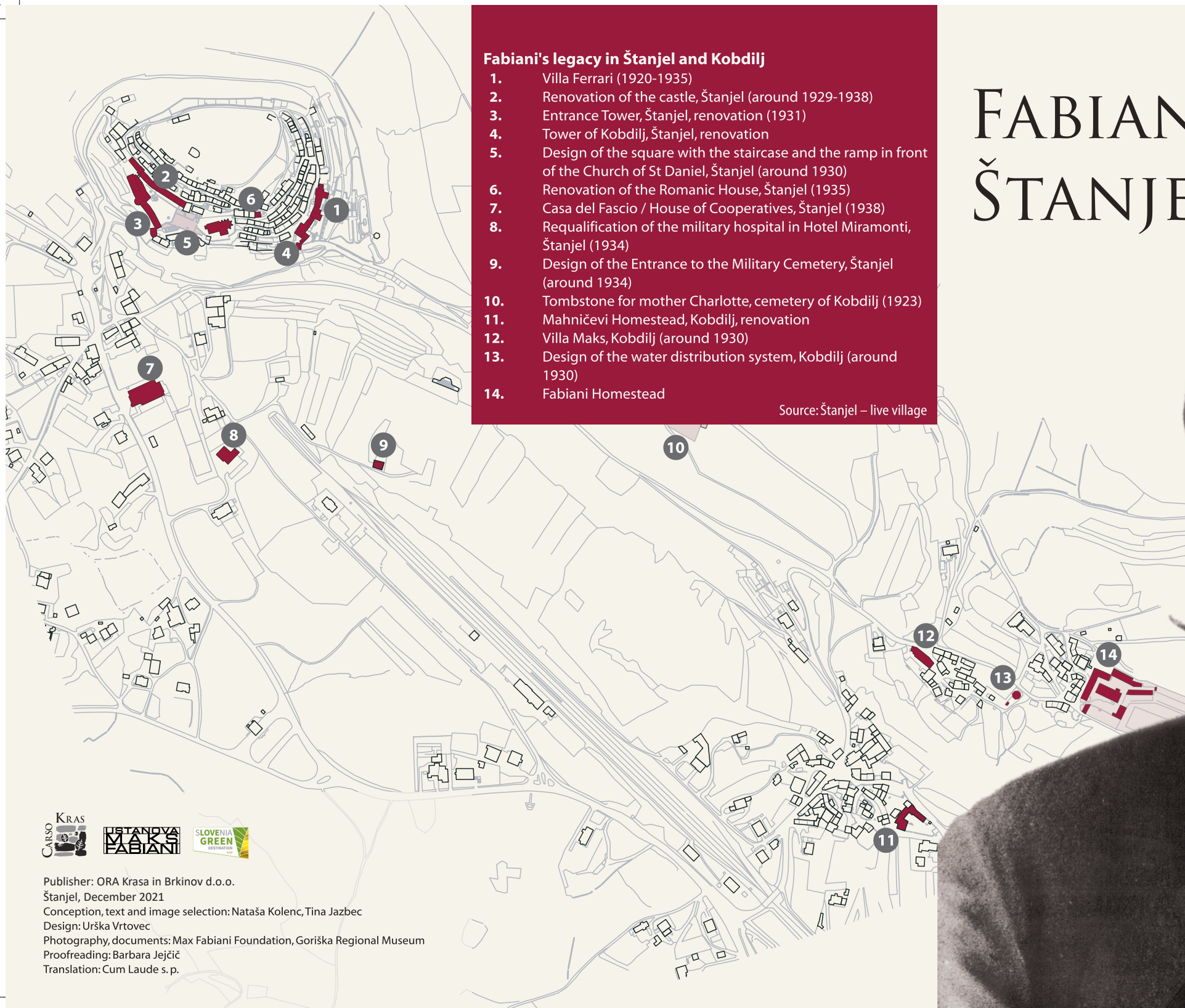


# FABIANI'S ŠTANJEL

## Fabiani's legacy in Štanjel and Kobdilj

1. Villa Ferrari (1920-1935)
2. Renovation of the castle, Štanjel (around 1929-1938)
3. Entrance Tower, Štanjel, renovation (1931)
4. Tower of Kobdilj, Štanjel, renovation
5. Design of the square with the staircase and the ramp in front of the Church of St Daniel, Štanjel (around 1930)
6. Renovation of the Romanic House, Štanjel (1935)
7. Casa del Fascio / House of Cooperatives, Štanjel (1938)
8. Requalification of the military hospital in Hotel Miramonti, Štanjel (1934)
9. Design of the Entrance to the Military Cemetery, Štanjel (around 1934)
10. Tombstone for mother Charlotte, cemetery of Kobdilj (1923)
11. Mahničevi Homestead, Kobdilj, renovation
12. Villa Maks, Kobdilj (around 1930)
13. Design of the water distribution system, Kobdilj (around 1930)
14. Fabiani Homestead

Source: Štanjel – live village



Publisher: ORA Krasa in Brkinov d.o.o.

Štanjel, December 2021

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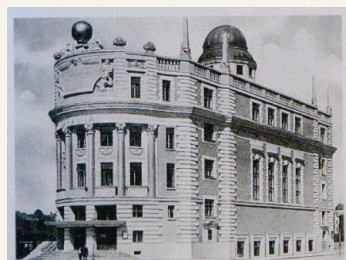
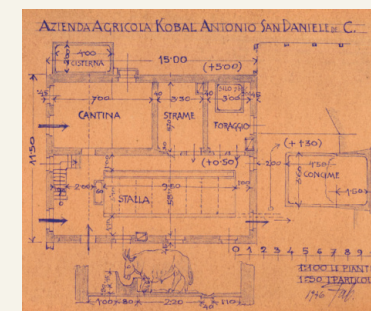
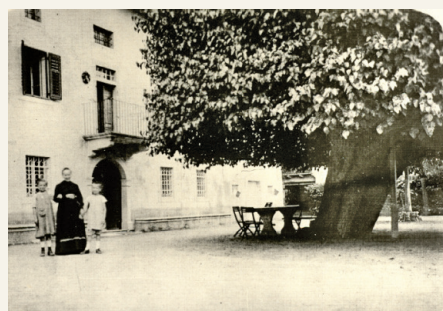
# MAX FABIANI (1865 – 1962)

ARCHITECT • URBANIST • PROFESSOR • MAYOR • INVENTOR • WRITER • THINKER • HUMANIST

**Max Fabiani – of Serzentovi from Kobdilj** was born on 29 April 1865 into a large family, to a Karts latifundist, Antonio Fabiani and a Triestine aristocrat of Tyrolian origin, Charlotte von Kofler. During the Austro-Hungarian period, **Fabiani's homestead** with a centuries-old mulberry in the yard was a multicultural environment, where three nations and three languages coexisted: Slovenian, German and Italian. Max left the Karst to attend school in Ljubljana and then **architecture courses** at Vienna Polytechnic.

Between the two World Wars, Fabiani served as the **mayor of Štanjel** (1935-1945). He restituted a former central role to the village by his carefully studied and still visible interventions. Fabiani achieved that the **Štanjel castle** passed under Italian State property and during the 1930s he converted it into multipurpose center—one of the first project of this kind, that included the municipality seat, school, kindergarten, cinema, clinic and other public spaces.

In Štanjel, Fabiani reconstructed the **Entrance Tower**, the **staircase** and the **square with a platform** between the castle and the church. He designed the renovation of the church and the bell tower. He renovated the **Romanic House** with the village well, where the ethnological collection of Štanjel is housed. He designed the entrance to the World War I **Military Cemetery** and transformed a nearby building from a former military facility into **Hotel Miramonti**.



**The years in Vienna** represent the peak of Fabiani's career as an architect and urbanist. After the initial collaboration with a leading Secessionist architect Otto Wagner, Fabiani became known as a **designer of urban palaces** in Vienna, Trieste, Ljubljana, Gorizia and as a **urbanist of the Empire**. In 1902, the University of Vienna awarded him an honorary doctorate for his urban plans for Ljubljana and Bielsko and named him university professor.

**In 1917**, Fabiani returned to the Gorizia region to coordinate the reconstruction of the areas that had been devastated by the Isonzo Front. As he perceived it as a moral obligation, he never returned back to Vienna. By 1922, he designed **92 urban plans** for towns and villages in the basin of the oča river, the Gorizia region and the Karst.

The most famous Fabiani's legacy in Štanjel is the **Ferrari Garden**, created as an addition to the **Ferrari Villa** – a group of buildings along the former eastern wall that were renovated for Fabiani's nephew Enrico Ferrari. This intervention gave a completely new content to the medieval Štanjel, without compromising its original identity. Fabiani excellently managed to **combine tradition and modernity**, functionality and visuality in the design of the garden, introducing the **water distribution system**, innovative and simple solution to the water problem in the Karst, which shows Fabiani's technical spirit.

His last intervention in Štanjel, planned after the World War I, was the **Casa del Fascio** from 1938, later the House of Cooperatives. In this period, Fabiani renewed one of the houses in Kobdilj (**Villa Max**) that shared with his brother.

**During the World War II**, Štanjel and Kobdilj were destroyed, Fabiani's personal archive and house were burned and the Serzentovi homestead in Kobdilj was damaged. Fabiani helped the villagers to prepare documentation in order to obtain the reconstruction funds from the **Allied Military Government**. After 1947, when this part of Karst belonged to Yugoslavia, Fabiani settled in Gorizia, where he died and was buried in 1962. His remains were later carried to the family tomb in Kobdilj.