

PLAZA MAYORES

Adina S. Banayan



Valladolid



Madrid



Salamanca

Elements of the Project

I. Introduction to Public Spaces

1. Greek Agora
2. Roman Forum
3. Plaza Mayores

II. Valladolid

1. Market Square and Street Changes Since 1561
2. Questions about Columns
3. Hierarchy in Section and Elevation

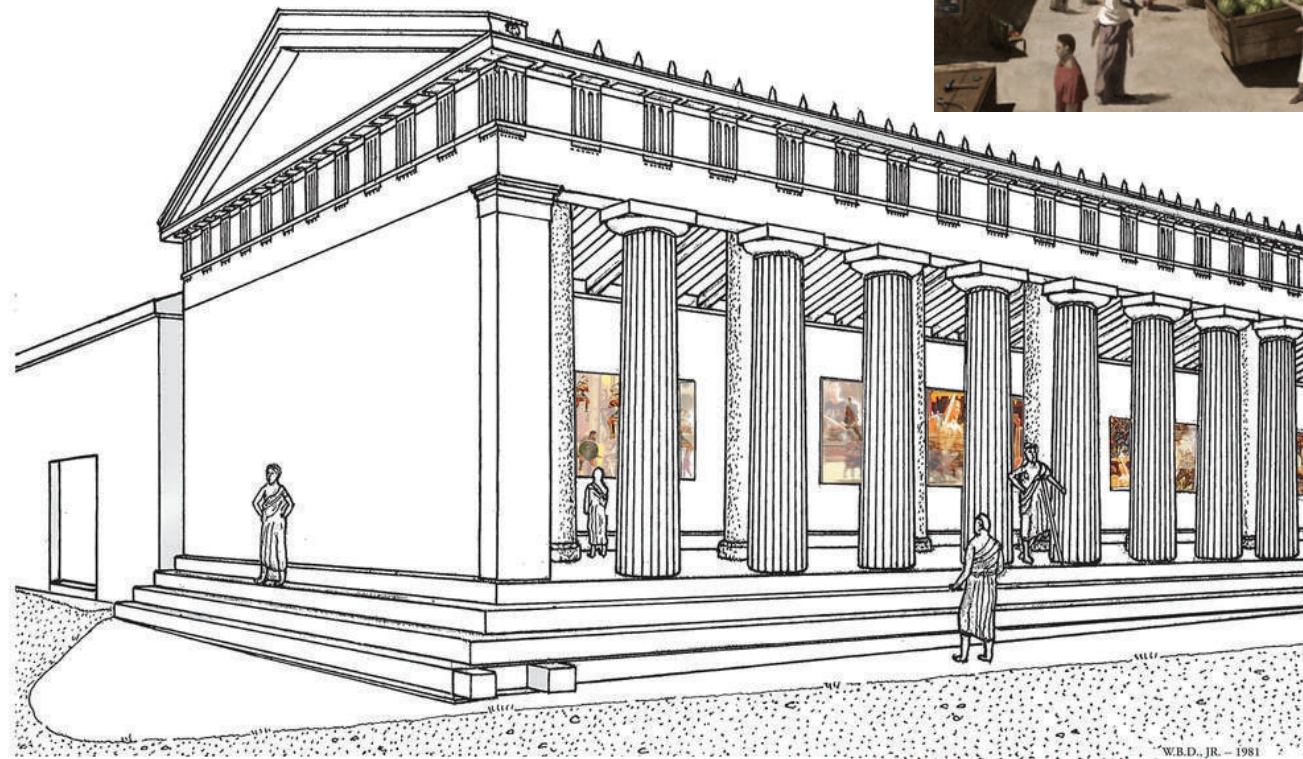
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1. Plaza Arrabal
2. Entrances Analysis

V. Salamaca

1. Plaza de San Martin
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3. Depression and Entrance Analysis
4. A Proposal

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agora (ancient greek)= ageirein
= **to meet**

"...a public places located in the city where the citizens went to exchange their opinons on public and private matters."

("The Square, A Vivid Urban Landscape" by Maria Anaiadou-Tzimopoulou and Alexandra Yerolympos)



1. Greek Agora

A reconstruction of the Stoa Poikile. From the Athenian Agora Excavations at <http://www.agathe.gr/>

2. Roman Forum

Exploded view of the Forum Romanum in AD 128 ("Rome in Spectacular Cross-Section" published by Oxford Univeristy Press 2003.



3.Plaza Major Salamanca

“...undoubtedly stimulated by the sucess of the projects realized in Spain soon after... **the return to democracy**...the recognized with increasing awareness that citizens have never ceased to show their fondness for city squares, or to demand the creation of new ones.” (“Sqaures and Public Spaces in the European City” by Franco Mancuso)

“The Plaza Mayor not only revitalized important central voids, but introduced the first large rectangular and geometric space in the heart of the city.” (“No Square, No City” by Maria Rubert de Ventos)



Elements of Plaza Mayors:

- 1) **Democratic: City Center**
- 2) **Political:** Located near administrative center
- 3) **Enclosing Balcanies** for viewing public events
- 4) **Large Size** for military parade, or public gatheing in a crisis or fiesta
- 5) **Style:** Spanish Baroque Style, geomet-ric shape of adaptable rectangle, accord-ing to site’s existing streets, buildings and topography

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Year: 1561 (13th Century)

Dimensions: 121.9m x 81m

Architect: Francisco de Salamaca

Entrances: 11 (unmarked)

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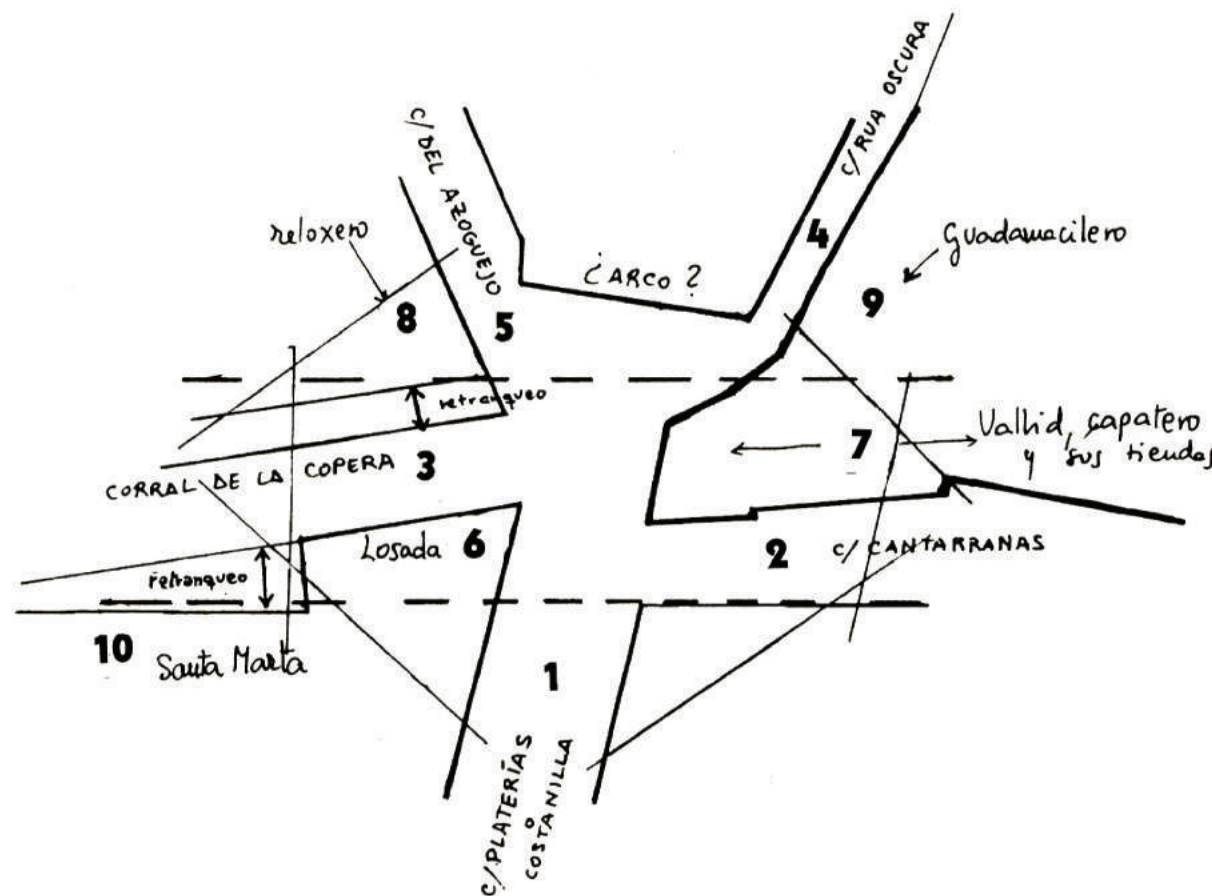
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VALLADOLID

Goal:

To regularize the Medieval crossing streets into the plaza, aligning the corners to the existing streets.



1. Plan of Market Square: Plaza del Mercado, Valladolid 1561

La Plaza Mercado Mayor de Valladolid
Alejandro Rebollo Matias

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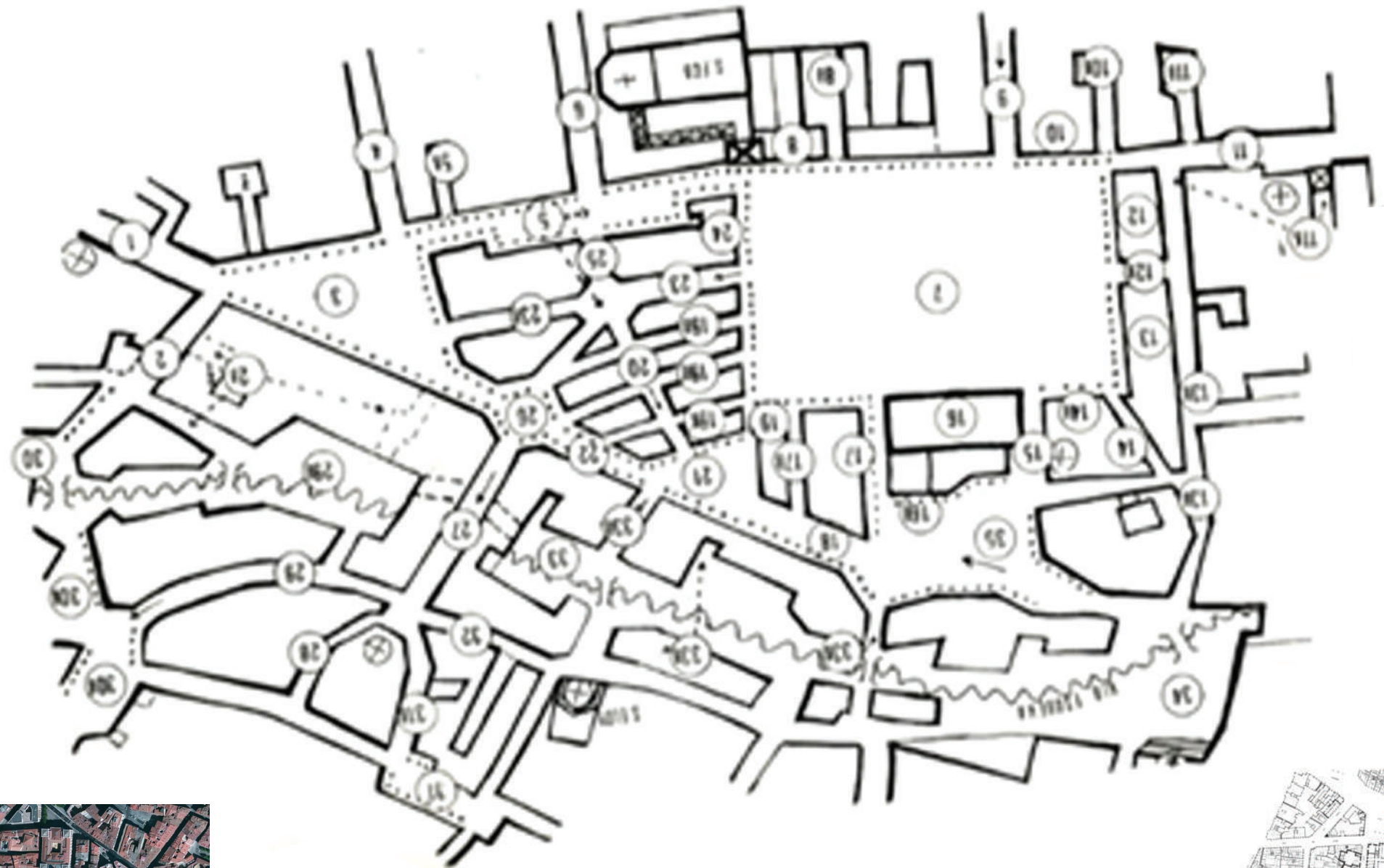


There are 14 entrances in the 1561 plan but only 11 entrances in the current plan.
Columns continue throughout surrounding areas.

WHY?

Intent: Market and backdrop for political events

Function: Meeting place and market-place



1. Plan of Pl. Mayor Valladolid 1561-95

La Plaza Mercado Mayor de Valladolid Alejandro Rebollo Matias



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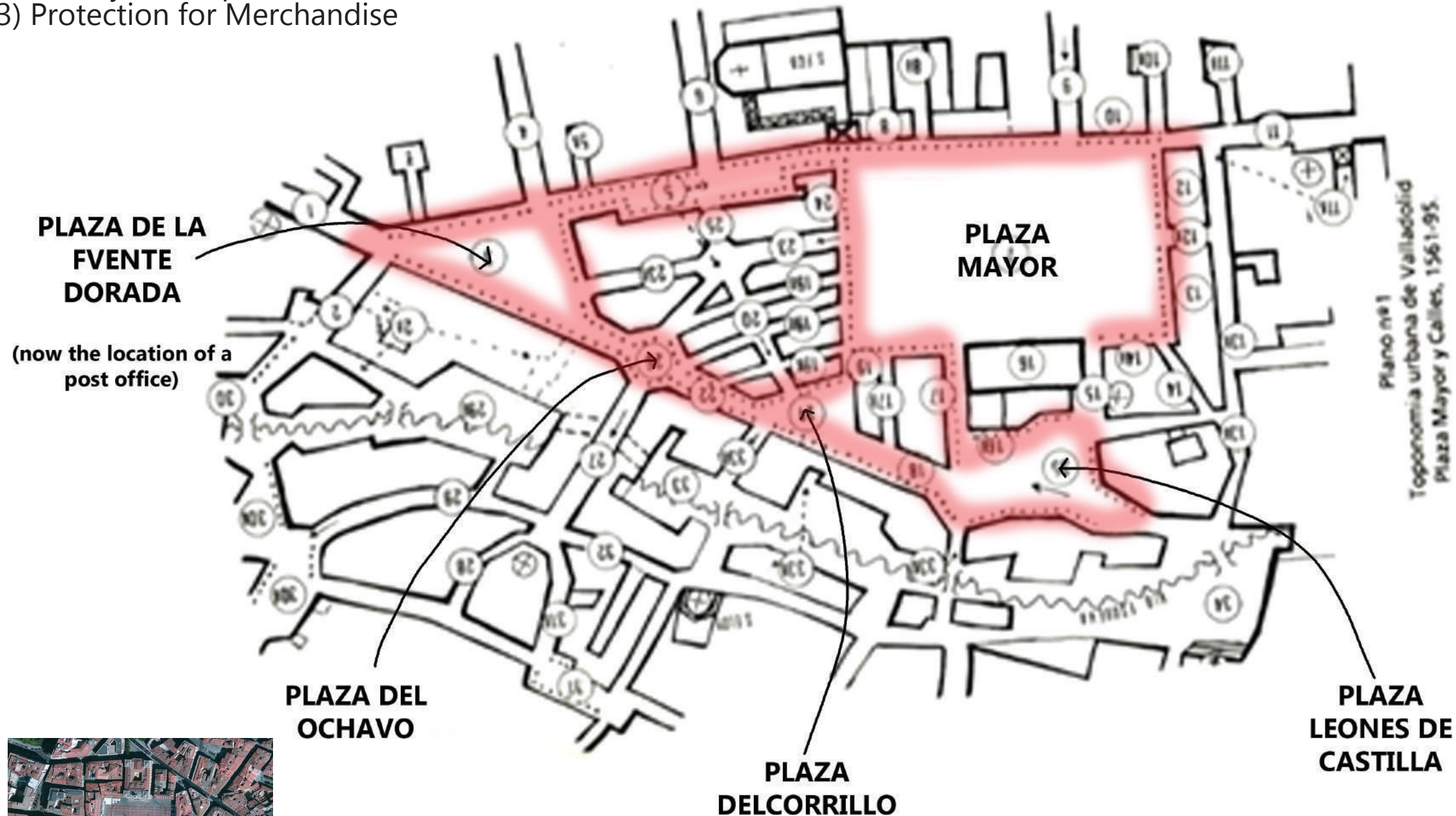
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Columns:

- 1) Divider of Public and Private Space
- 2) Privacy of Prep and Merchants
- 3) Protection for Merchandise



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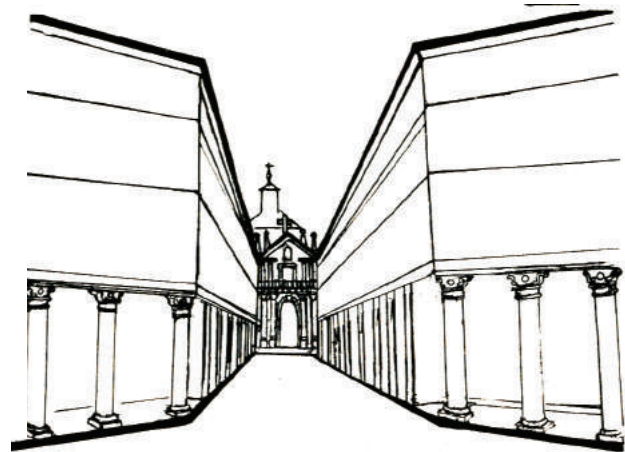
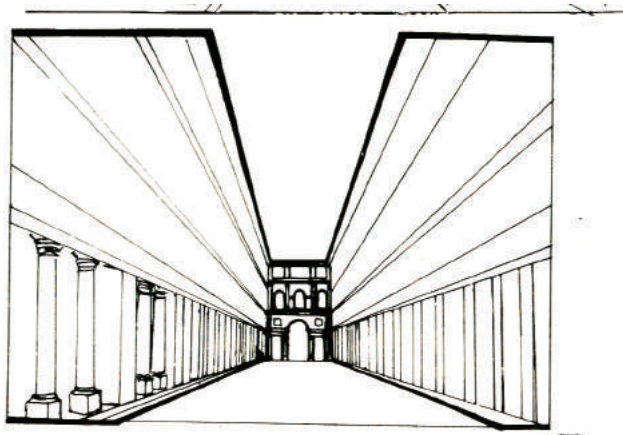
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Unmarked Entrances Explained:

Public Space / Marketplace continues!



2. Entrances of Pl. Mayor Valladolid

La Plaza Mercado Mayor de Valladolid Alejandro Rebollo Matias



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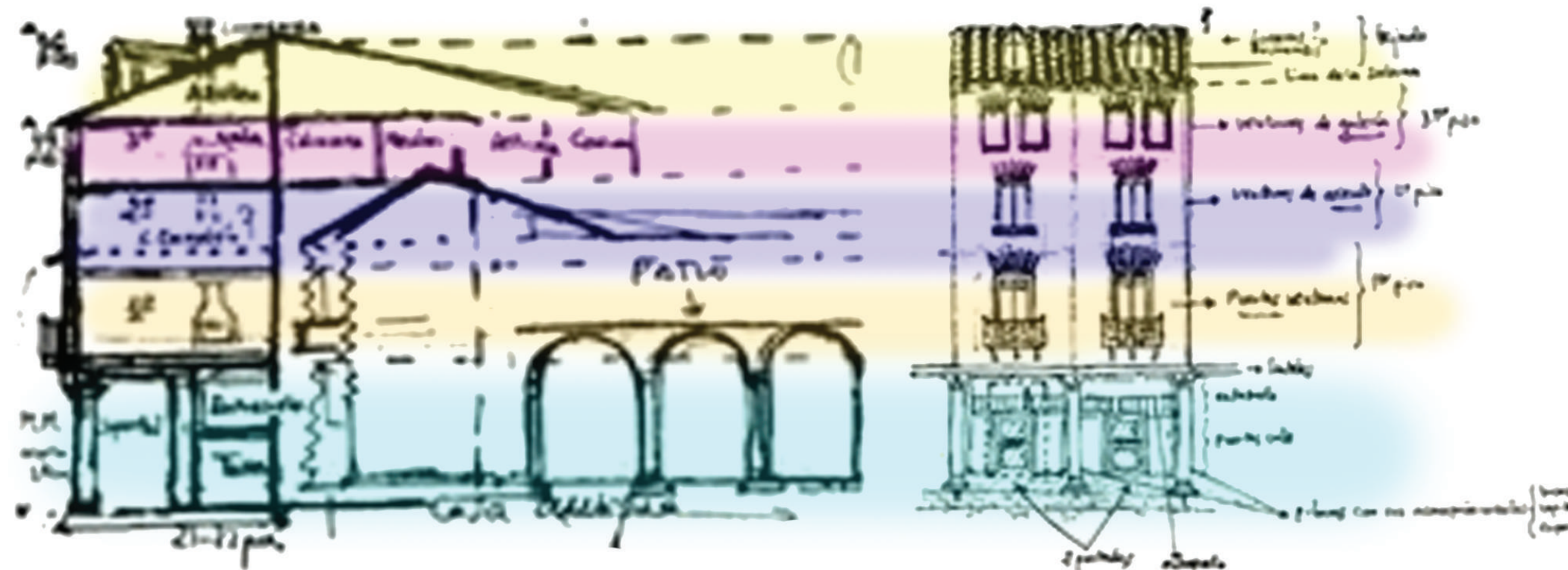
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Openings represent hierarchy.

WHY?



Historical Fact:

Elevators were not invented until the 1853. The higher the steps you needed to climb, the cheaper the view.

3. Section and Elevation of Pl. Mayor Valladolid

La Plaza Mercado Mayor de Valladolid
Alejandro Rebollo Matias

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But there is no symmetry in the elevation.

WHY?



Historical Fact:

Plaza developed with the perimeter of existing houses, streets, and openings. Columns mirror these distances, while adding some more for structure purposes.

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MADRID

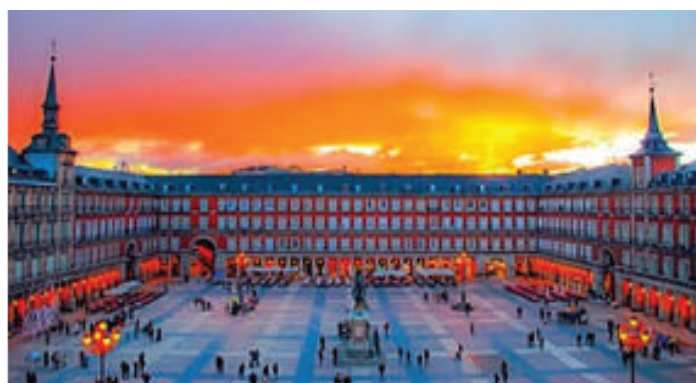


Year: 1577-1790

Dimensions: 129m x 94m

Architects: Juan de Herrera, Juan Gomez de Mora, and Juan de Villanueva

Entrances: 9 (6/9 marked with larger arches)



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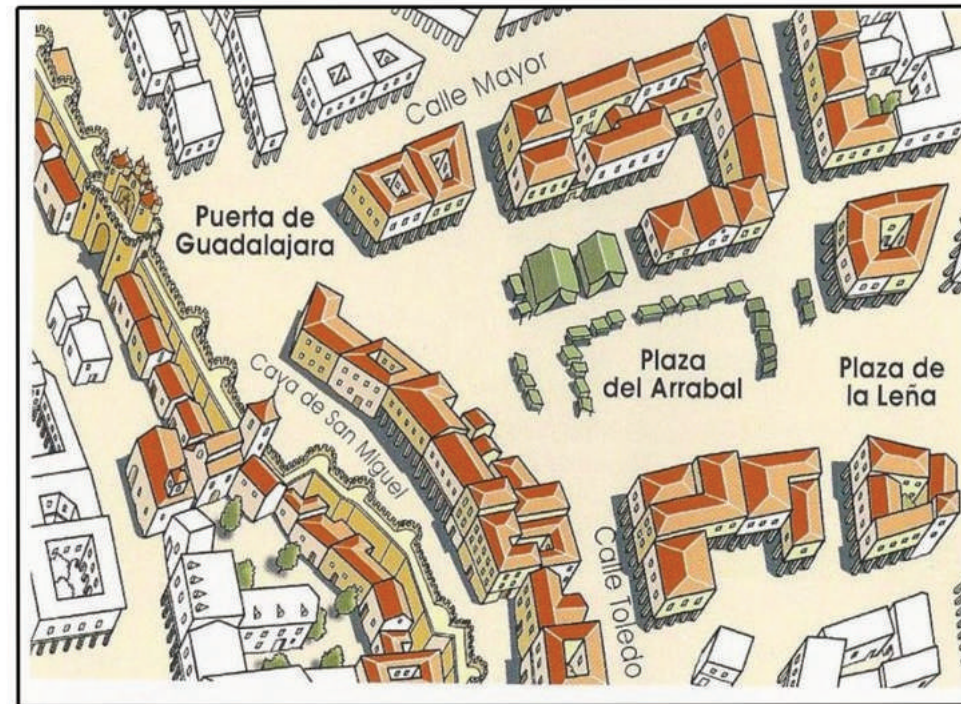
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MADRID



Intent: To legitify Madrid as the capital

Function: was used for excursions, and bullfights. It is now a historical attraction.

Historical Fact:

Madrid wasn't always the Capital until Philips III. It used to be a great location for hunting. Plaza Mayor was built over (or super-imposed on an existing plaza/ market place, defining it's infrastructure.

1. Plans of Pl. Arrabal

CasaMaria Plaza Mayor - WordPress.com

<https://locuraviajes.com/la-plaza-mayor-de-madrid/>

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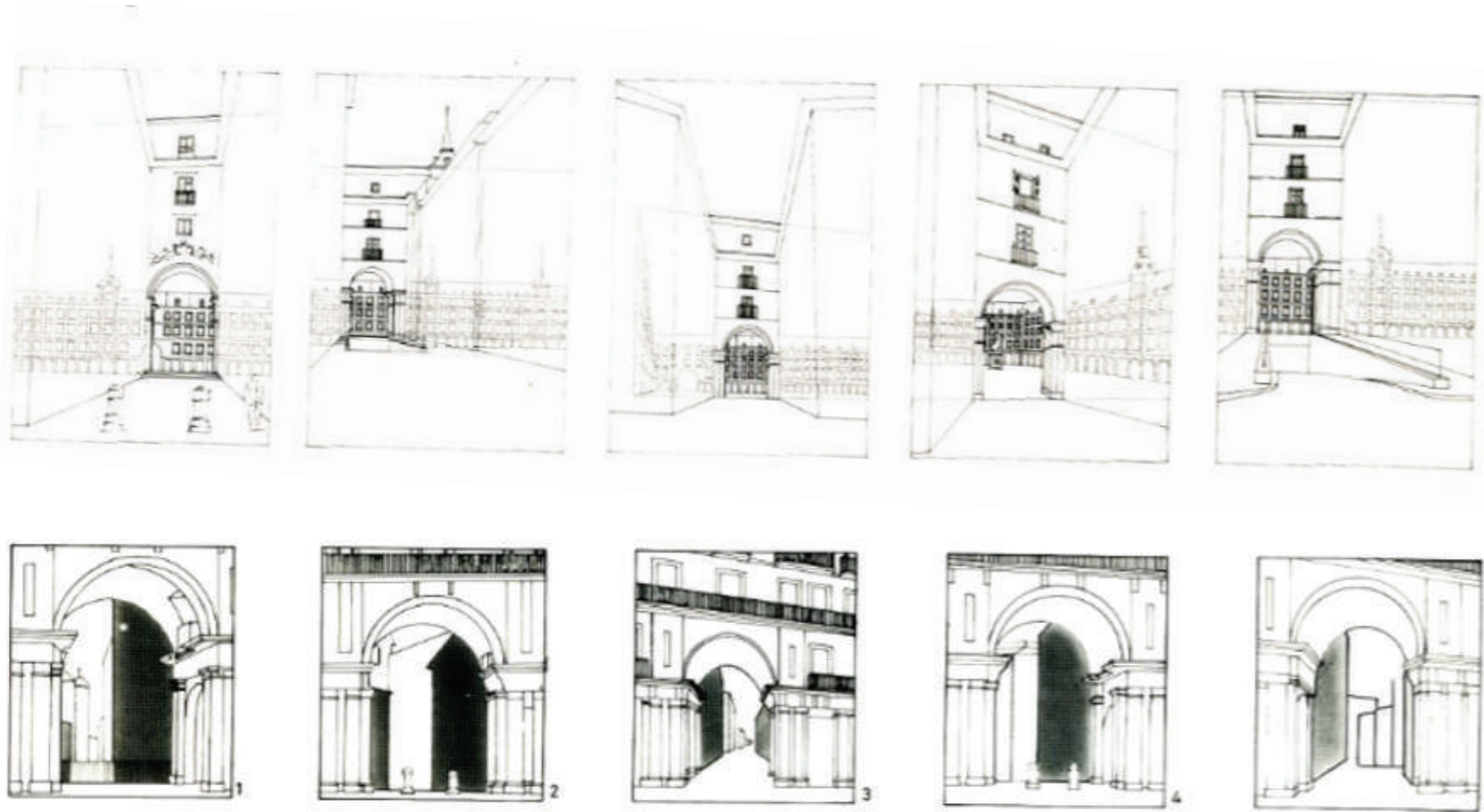
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Arched Entrances:

Arches create an enclosed space, different than that of Valladolid.
For Political reasons.



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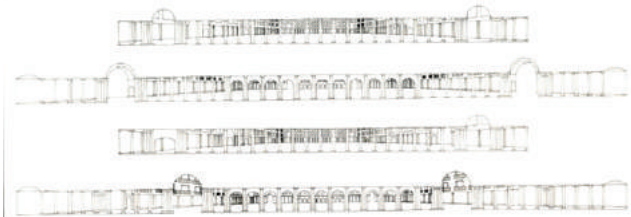
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MADRID

The symetrical Entrances emphasized with an arch.

WHY?

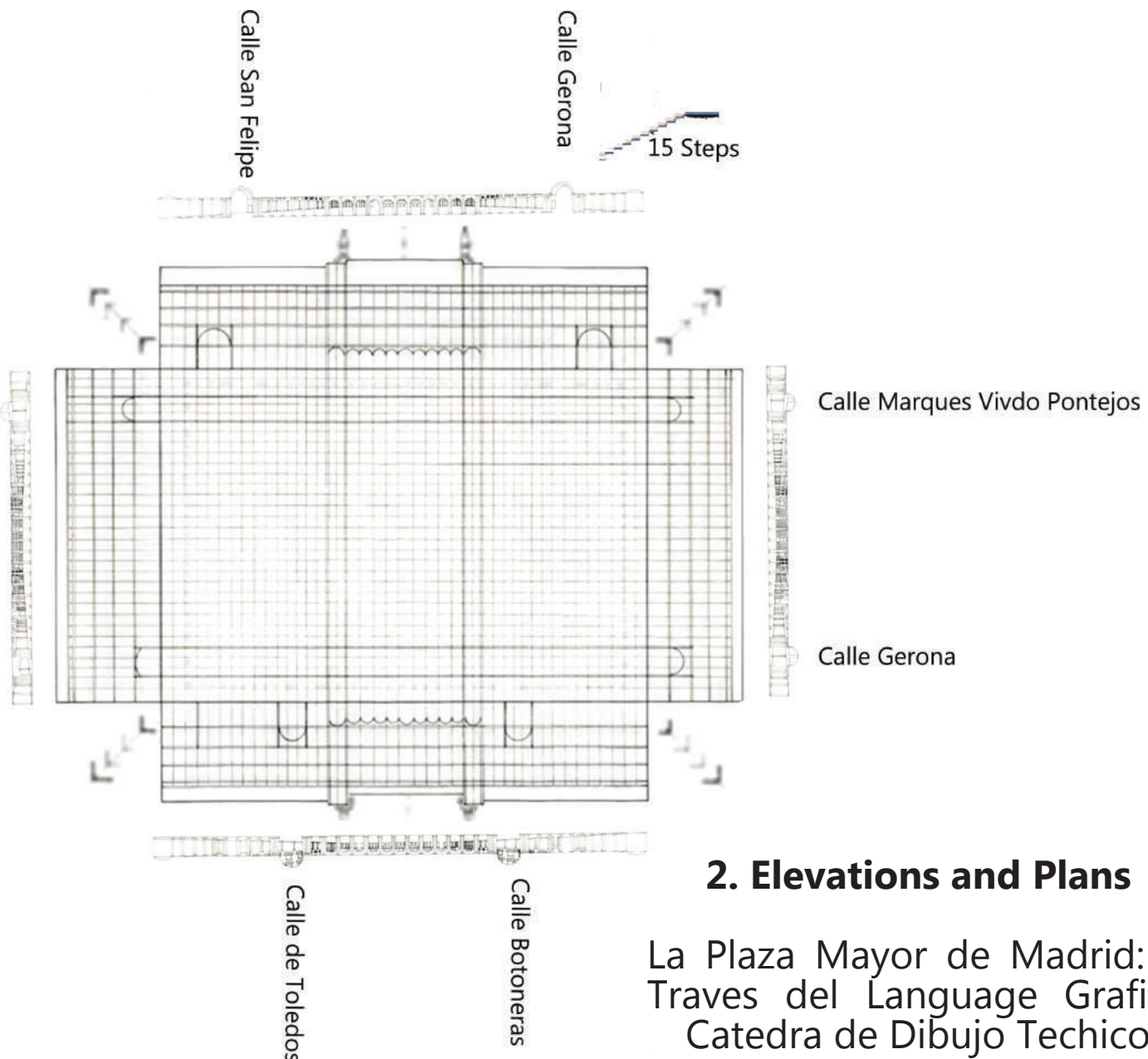
In these specific locations?
Are they not really symetrical?
Is one arch lower by three meters?



3m



Calle San Felipe Neri



2. Elevations and Plans

La Plaza Mayor de Madrid: A
Traves del Language Grafico
Catedra de Dibujo Techico

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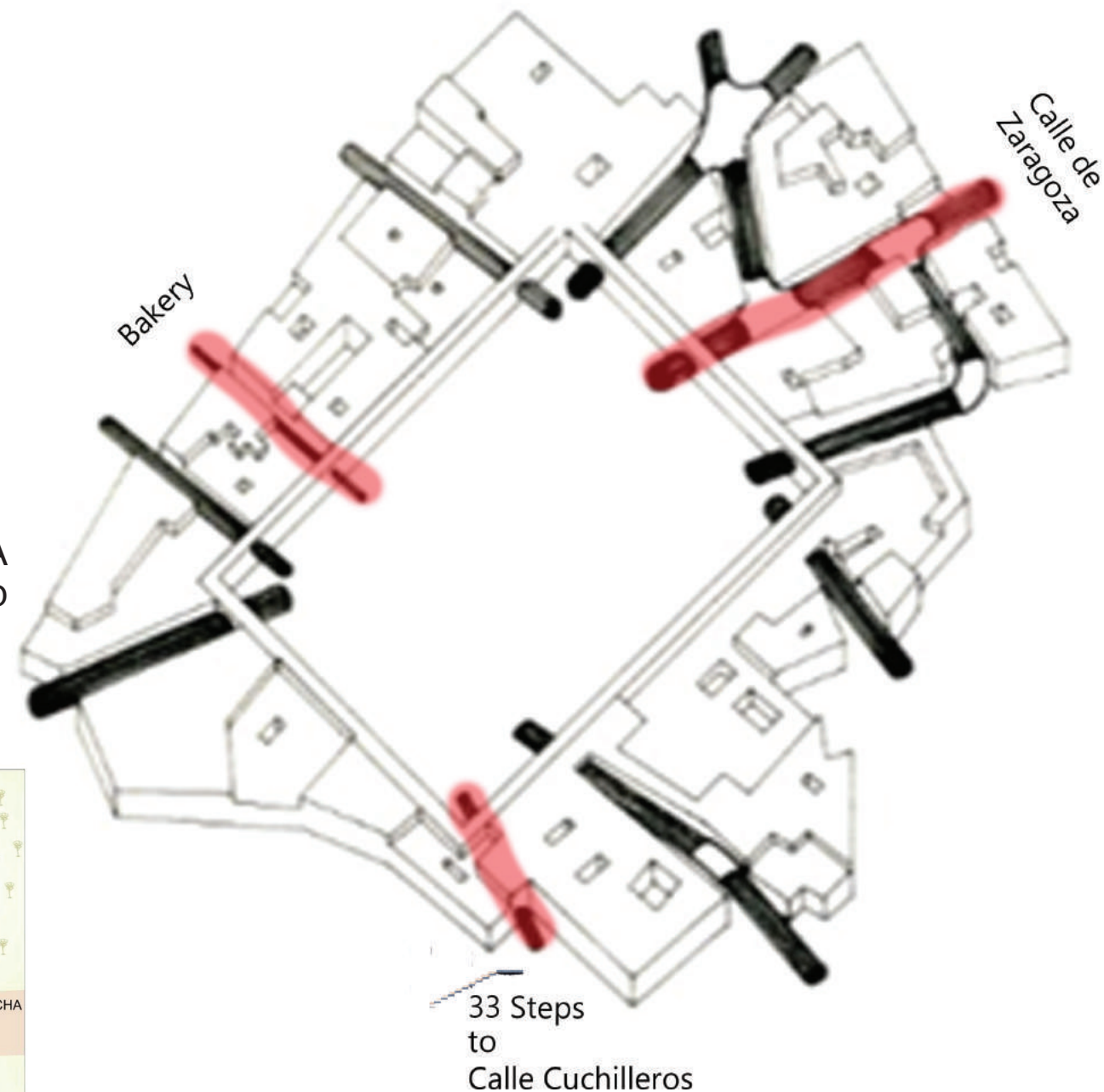
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These Entrances are not emphasized with an arch.

WHY?

2. Entrances of Pl. Mayor

La Plaza Mayor de Madrid: A Traves del Language Grafico
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SALAMANCA



Intent: Bullfighting

Function: Used for bullfighting for 100 years now, an active main square, heart of the city

Year: 1729-1755

Dimensions: 6400m2 (around 86m x 86m)

Architects: Andres Garcia de Quinones and Alberto de Churriguera

Entrances: 6

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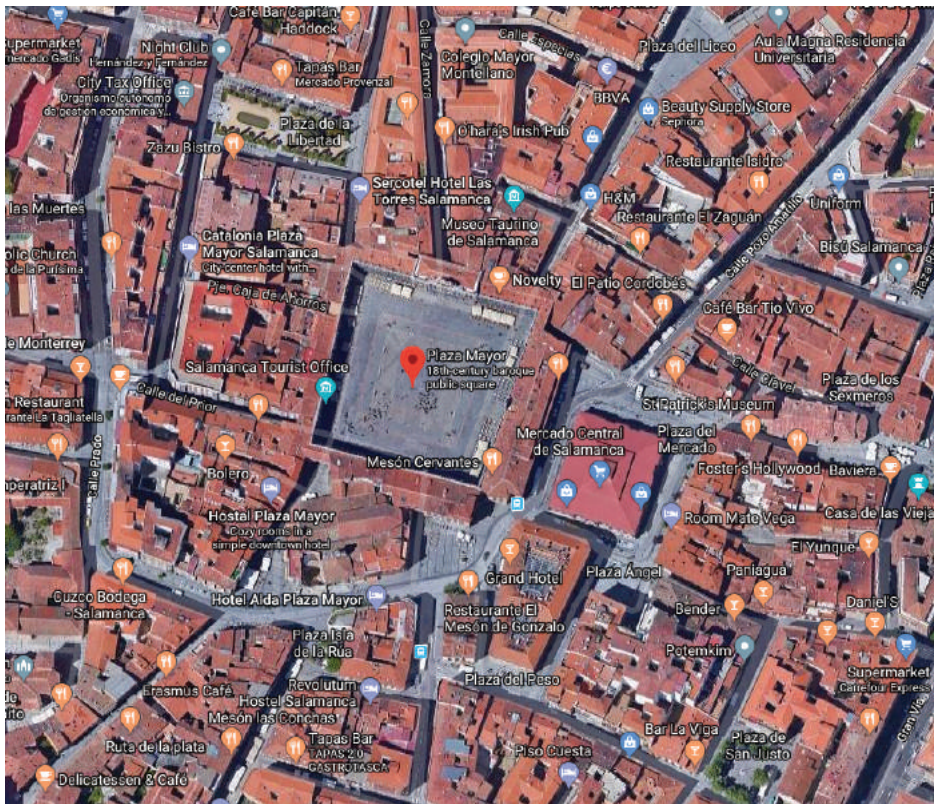
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Historical Fact:

Plaza Mayor Salamanca used to be known as Plaza de San Matin, which is now Plaza del Mercado, Poeta Iglesia, El Corrillo and Plaza Mayor. It acted as a marketplace (for oil, meat, fish, fruits and vegetables), the plaza del corrillo and the poet churches. Being that the space was too large for a single plaza, they used the existing streets and buildings, and topography to confine the space.

- 1. Remoding of Plaza de San Martin
- <http://salamancapasoapaso.blogspot.com.es/2012/08/la-plaza-de-san-martin.html>

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"Although the surface decoration of Salamanca's Plaza Mayor is notable, the square as a whole remains a study in architectural uniformity that can be traced to Madrid." ("The Plaza Mayor and The Shaping of the Baroque Madrid" by Escubar, J.)

Historical Fact:

Plaza Mayor Salamanca is known as the "Golden City". Its main material is **Sandstone**, which creates a very beautiful "glowing" affect, but is very flammable.



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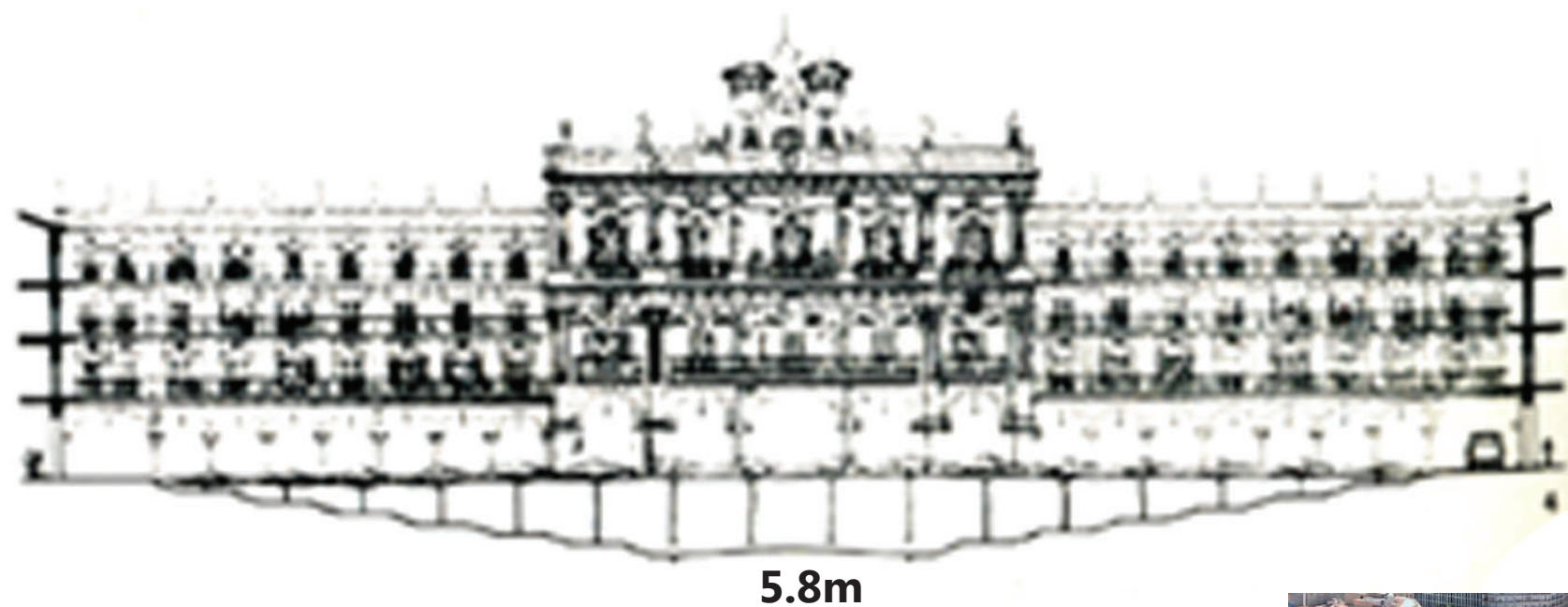
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Depression in the middle.

WHY?



Historical Fact:

Felipe V ordered Plaza Mayor Salamanca mainly for Bullfighting, and was used for bullfighting for 100 years.

3. Section Cut of Salamanca Pl Major

Kent, C. La Plaza Mayor de Salamanca



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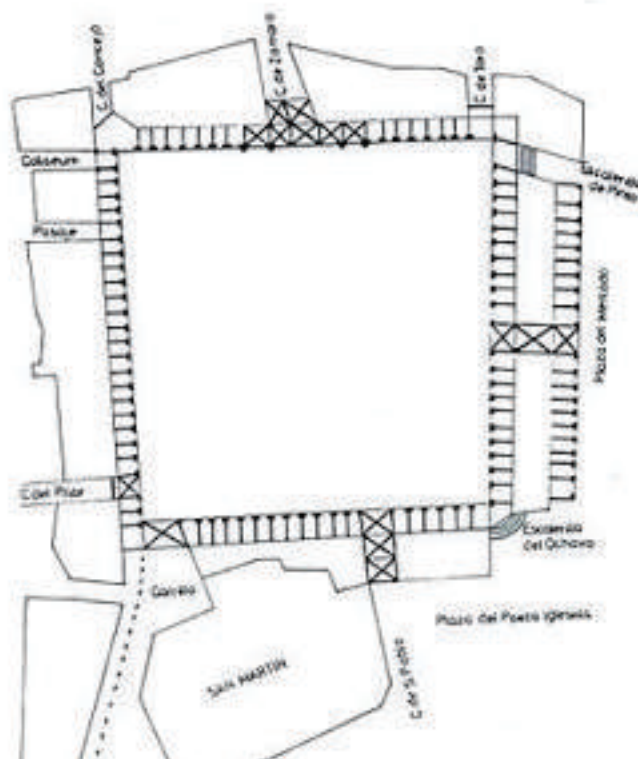
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3. Plan of Salamanca Pl Major

Kent, C. La Plaza Mayor de Salamanca



Historical Fact:

It is said to resemble a clock.

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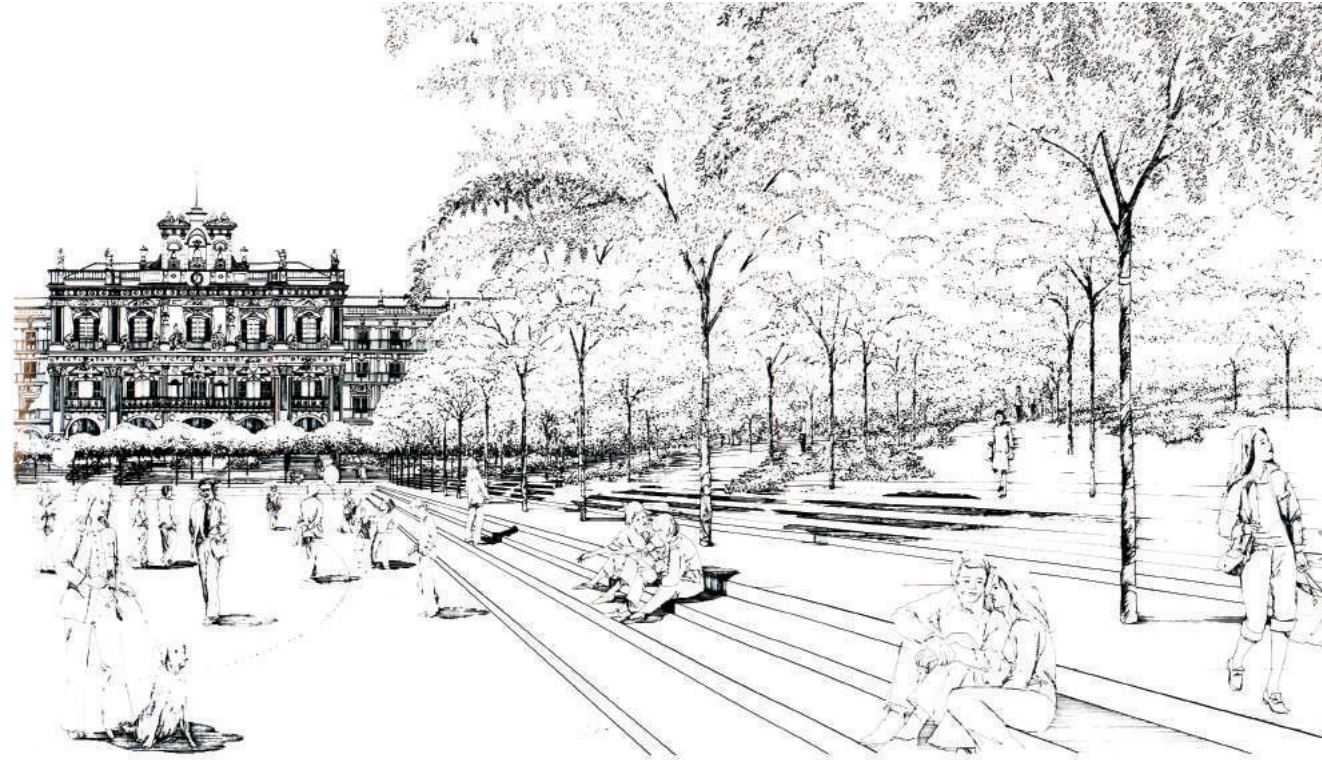
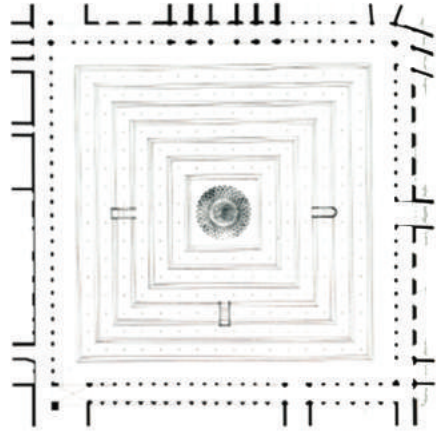
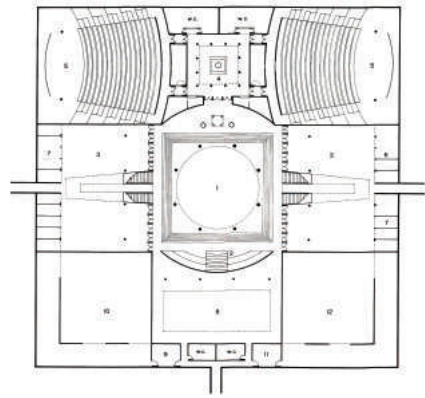
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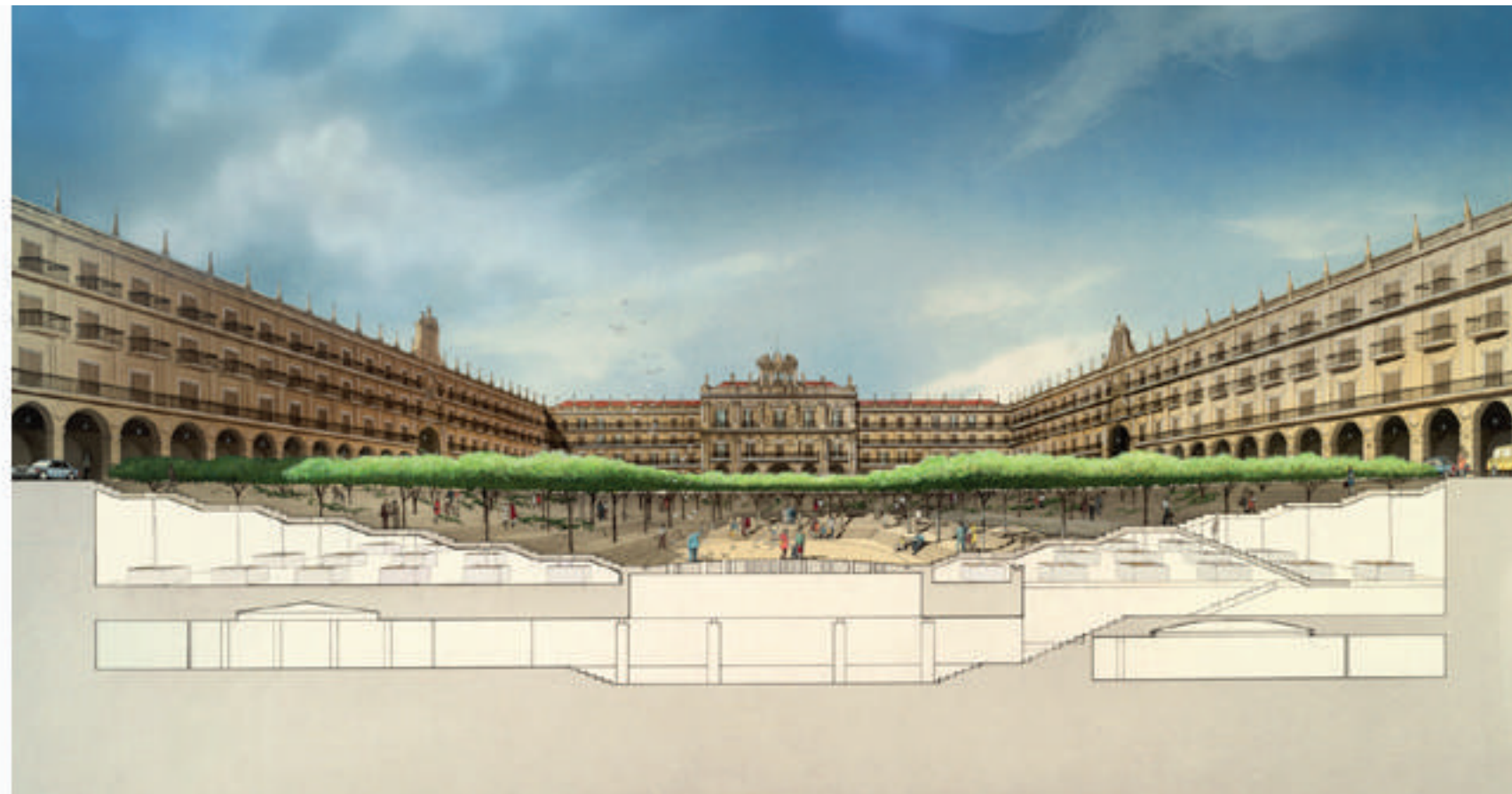
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Historical Fact:

In 1982, Emilio Ambasz proposed a project on Salamanca, which included vegetation, sitting areas, and a cultural center underground. The project was praised by many but never built.



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