

PIAZZA [FABRIC] ANALYSIS

CONTAINMENT

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PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

Public plazas in the urban realm are often concerned with the lack of outdoor room and positive green space. However, Italian piazzas demonstrate surprising patterns to construct enclosed public spaces that are equally pleasant. Spatial specific building fabrics provide the feeling of a room within an outdoor environment, which offers strong perceived boundaries of space. This containment can be seen through such objects as a common cornice line creating an imaginary ceiling to the space, or through changes in materiality of building types and floor pavers. The elements of containment are what help to create a successful piazza.

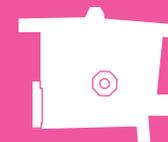


A Successful Piazza Can Include...

BUILDING HARMONY

PIAZZA DI SANTA MARIA - TRASTEVERE

[ROME]



MATERIAL PALETTE



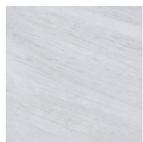
STUCCO



STONE

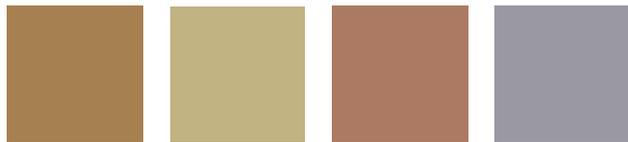


ROMAN
BRICK



MARBLE

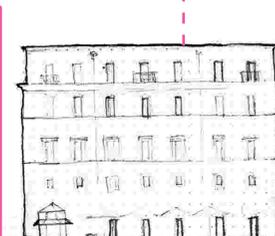
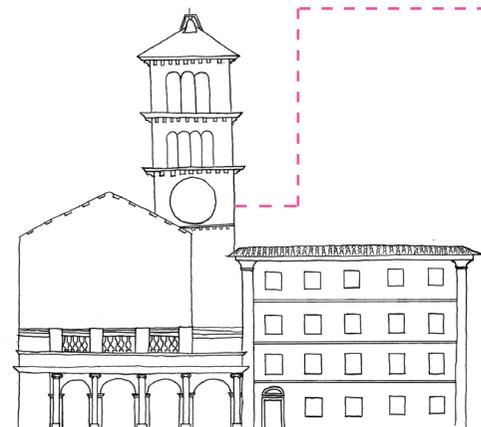
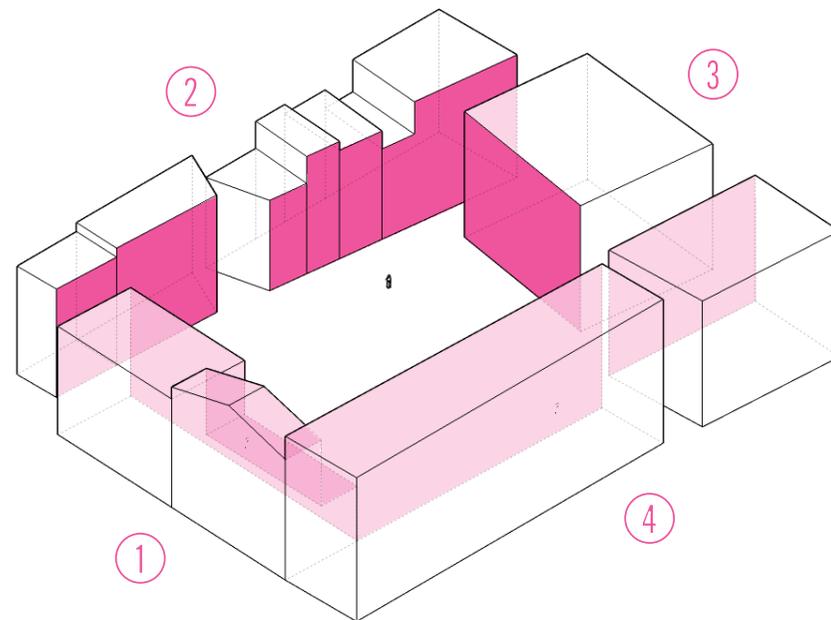
COLOR PALETTE



% OF EXCEPTIONAL FACADES

CHURCH: 10%

BISHOP PALAZZO: 27%



1

2

3

4

SANTO SPIRITO [FLORENCE]



MATERIAL PALETTE



STUCCO



ROUGH
STONE

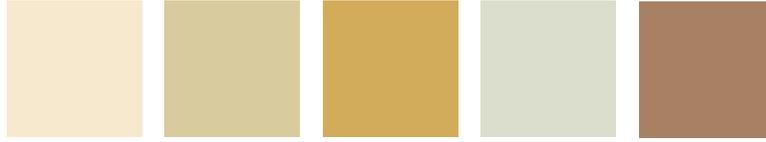


SMOOTH
STONE



ROMAN
BRICK

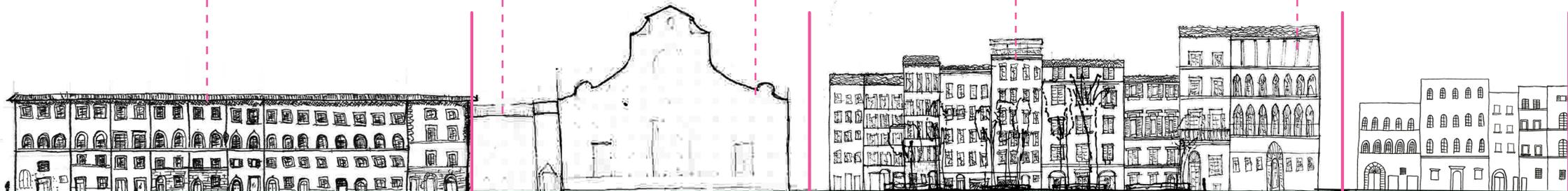
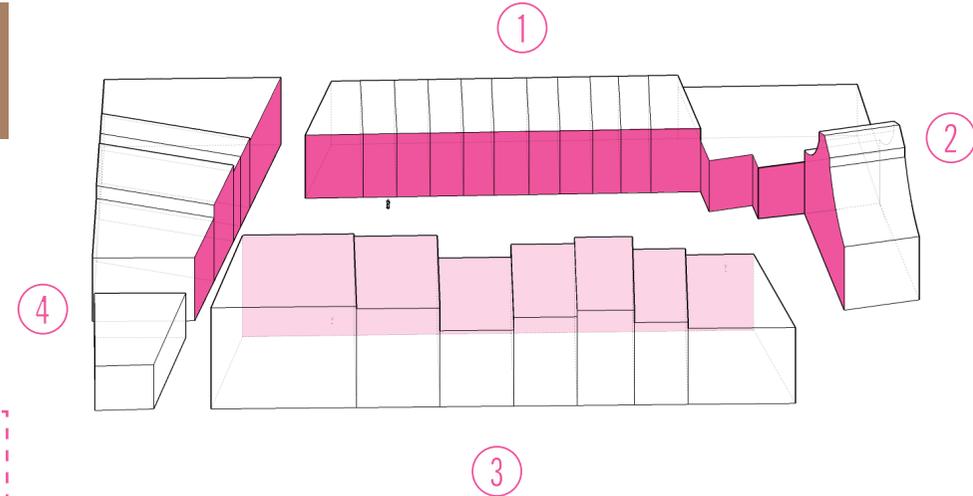
COLOR PALETTE



% OF EXCEPTIONAL FACADES

CHURCH: 19%

PALAZZO: 10%



1

2

3

4

PIAZZA DEL CAMPO [SIENA]



MATERIAL PALETTE



STUCCO



ROUGH
STONE



SMOOTH
STONE

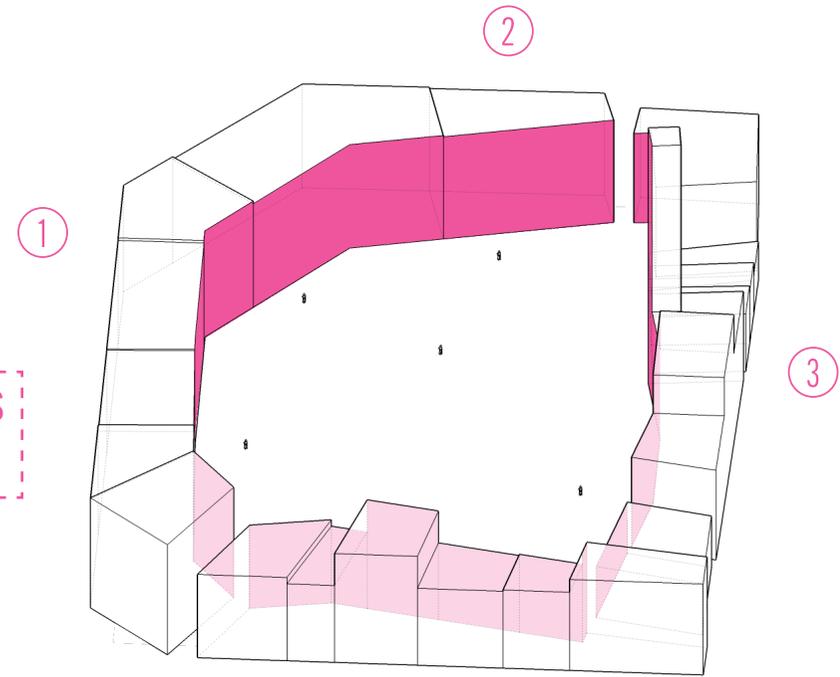


BRICK

COLOR PALETTE



% OF EXCEPTIONAL FACADES
PALAZZO PUBBLICO: 15%



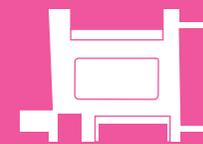
1

2

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PIAZZA MAGGIORE [BOLOGNA]



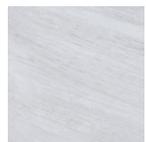
MATERIAL PALETTE



BRICK

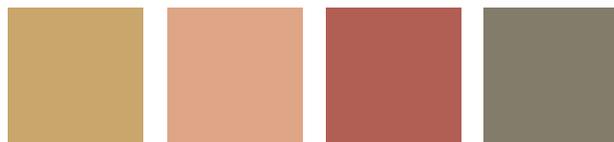


ROUGH
STONE



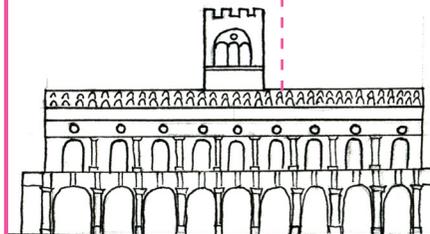
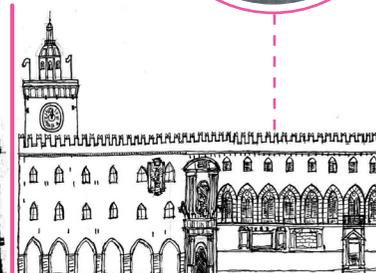
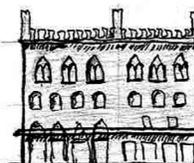
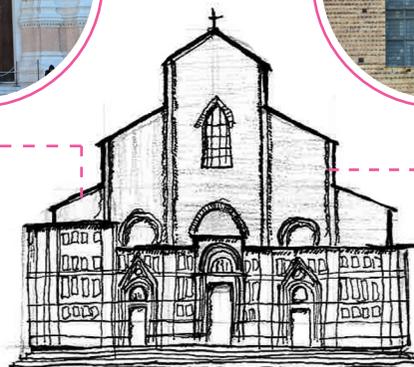
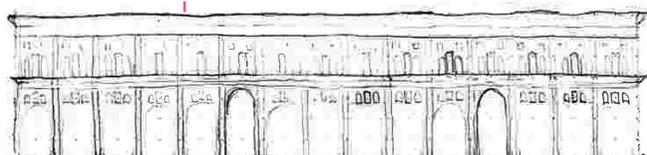
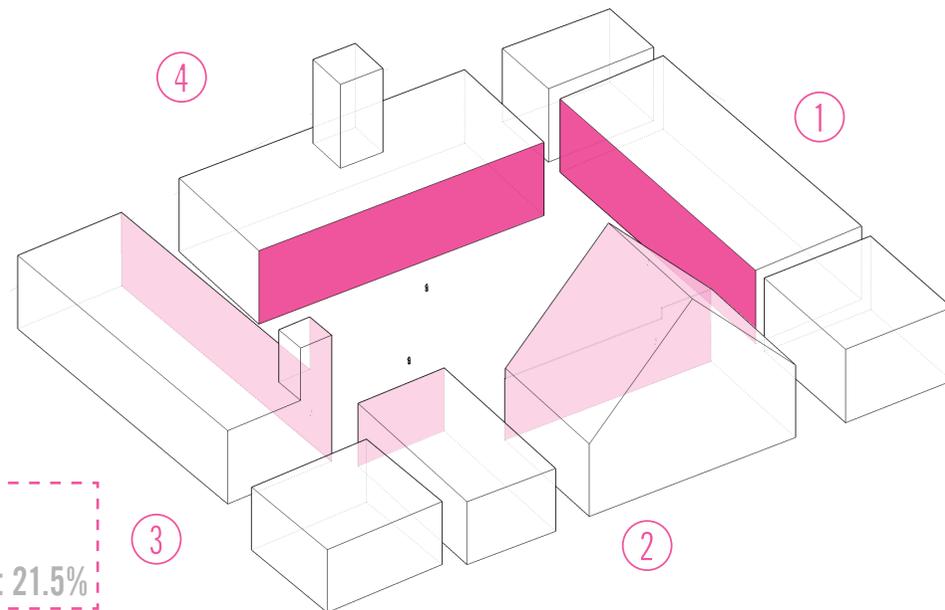
MARBLE

COLOR PALETTE



% OF EXCEPTIONAL FACADES

BASILICA DE SAN TETRONIO: 21.5%



1

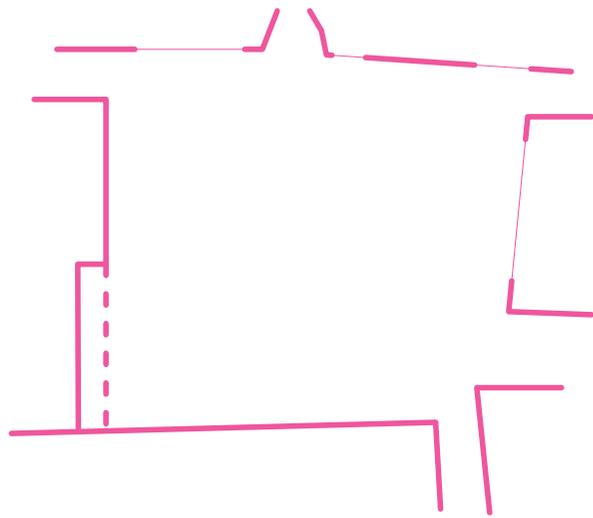
2

3

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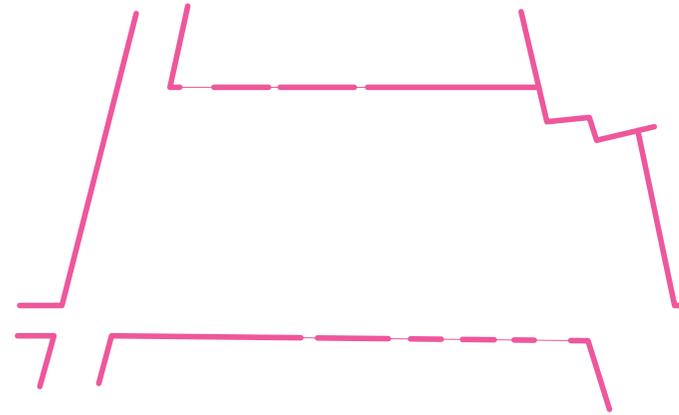
A Successful Piazza Can Include...

LAYERS OF EDGES



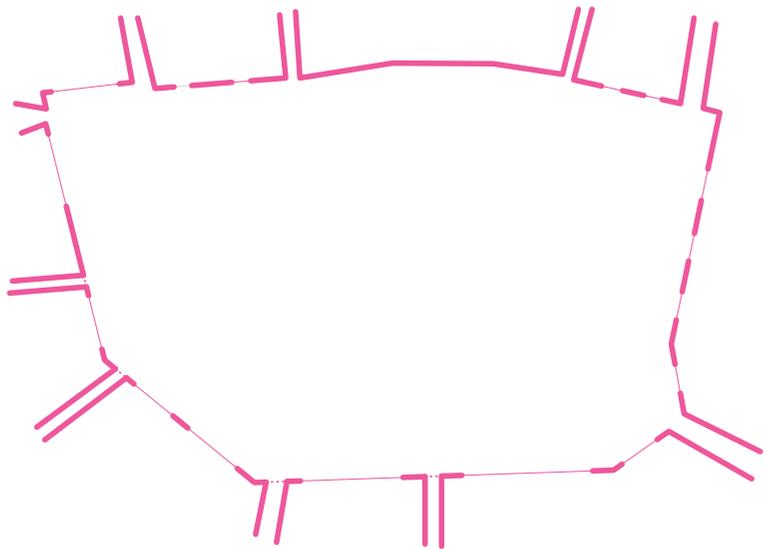
TRASTEVERE [ROME]

SOLID: 77%
TRANSPARENT: 23%



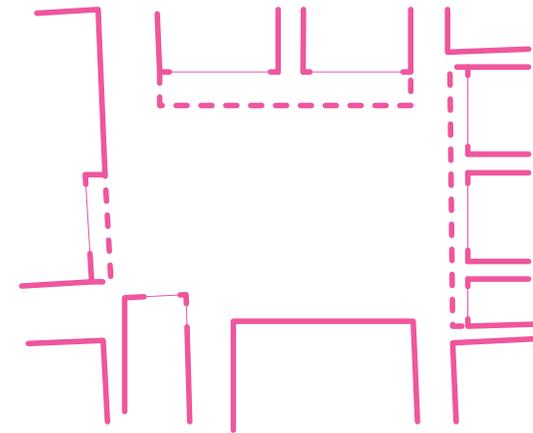
SANTO SPIRITO [FLORENCE]

SOLID: 89%
TRANSPARENT: 11%



PIAZZA DEL CAMPO [SIENA]

SOLID: 61%
TRANSPARENT: 39%



PIAZZA MAGGIORE [BOLOGNA]

SOLID: 33%
TRANSPARENT: 67%



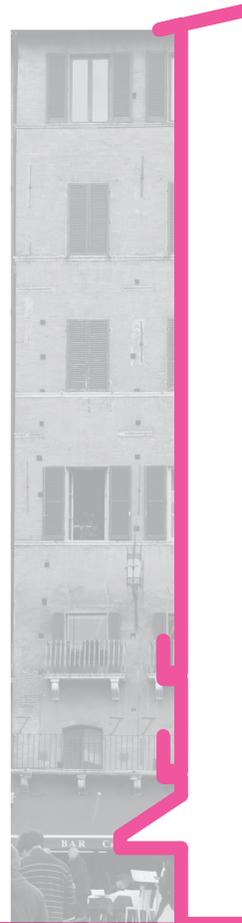
TRASTEVERE [ROME]

The Bishop's Palazzo in Santa Maria in Trastevere lacks any buffer zone along the entire flat facade, with minimal changes in depth around the window openings.



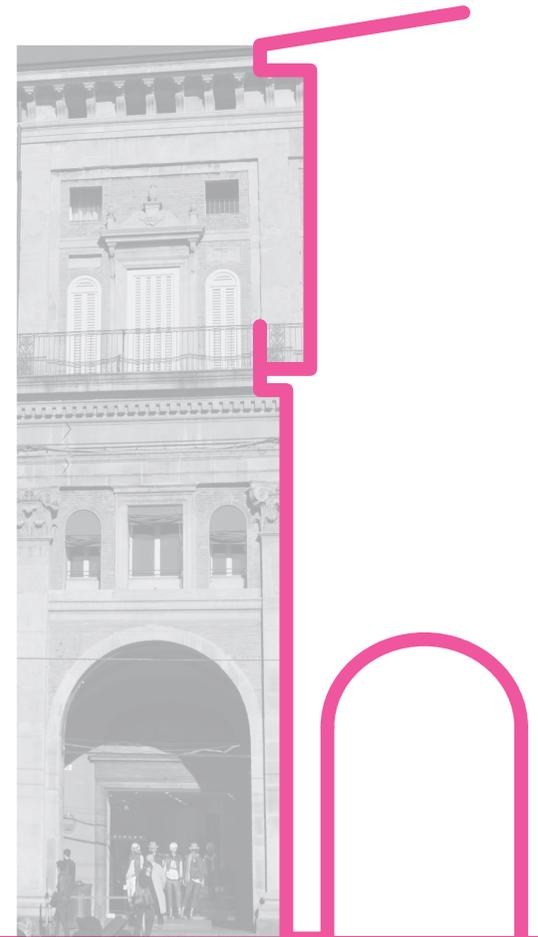
SANTO SPIRITO [FLORENCE]

The palazzo in Piazza Santo Spirito has minimal interactions with the street until the top floor where there is a roof top altana.



PIAZZA DEL CAMPO [SIENA]

In the Piazza del Campo, retractable awnings are on every ground floor shop front while balconies occupy upper levels of the apartments above.



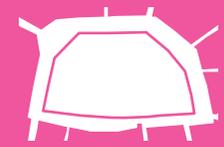
PIAZZA MAGGIORE [BOLOGNA]

Porticos surround the ground floor of the Piazza Maggiore with scattered balconies in the upper stories.

A Successful Piazza Can Include...

LEVELS OF ENCLOSURES

PIAZZA DEL CAMPO [SIENA]

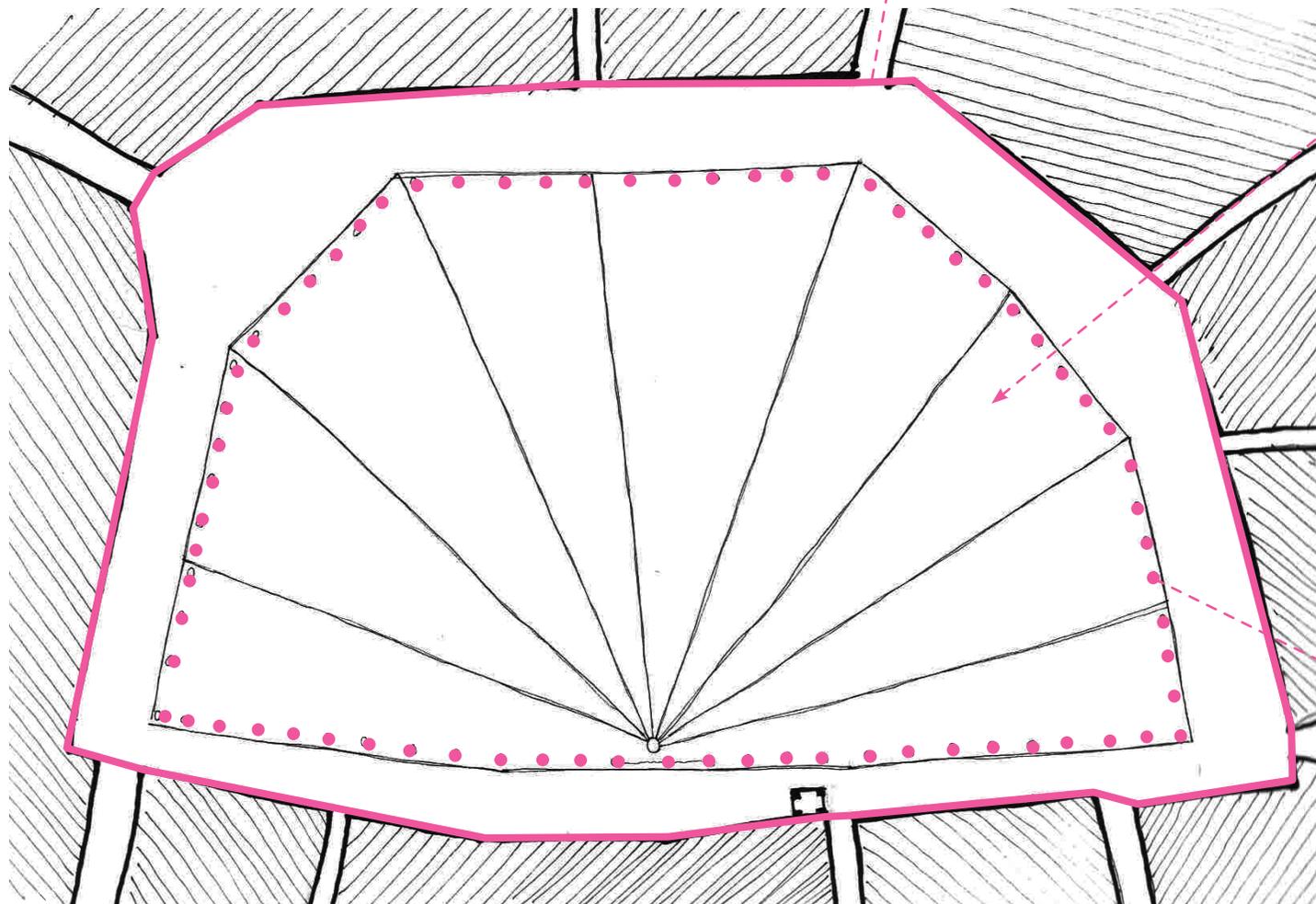


RADIAL CONTAINMENT:

Between the paving patterns and baluster locations within the piazza, an ideal amount of protection is given to the central space, causing it to receive a great rating in this category.

MIMICKING EDGES

The central space created by the paving and the balusters mimics that of the piazza, which helps further define the shape of the space.



PAVING PATTERN

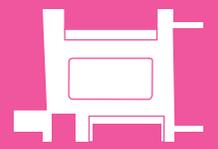
A change in paving from concrete to brick helps denote the safe central space in this piazza.



BALUSTERS

Balusters surrounding the main area of the piazza, creating a 2nd level of containment to help define and protect the central space.

PIAZZA MAGGIORE [BOLOGNA]



LINEAL CONTAINMENT:

By having a raised rectangular plinth within the piazza and changing the paving style of that plinth, an ideal amount of protection is given to this central space, causing it to receive a great rating in this category.

MIMICKING EDGES

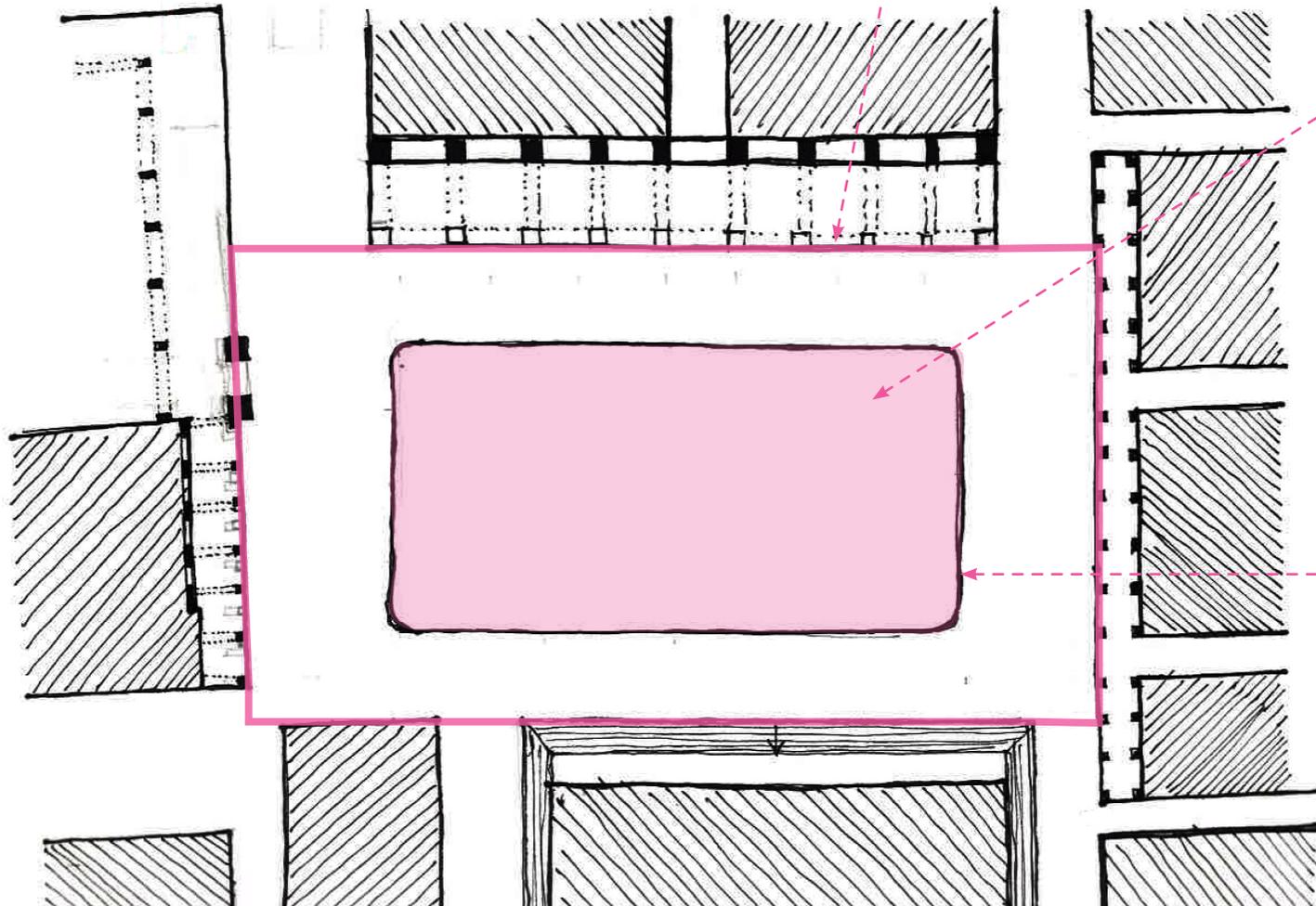
Similar to the Campo, the raised central plinth mimics the shape of its piazza in a simple rectangular shape, which further defines its space.

PAVING PATTERN

A change in the paving on the plinth versus that of the streets gives it hierarchy within the larger outdoor room.

RAISED STEP

The raised plinth in the center of piazza creates a safe place for people to congregate and sit. Due to the limited traffic allowed in this piazza, this edge creates refuge for the users of the space.



SANTO SPIRITO [FLORENCE]



EXCESSIVE CONTAINMENT:

By having multiple levels of containment, it is possible to go overboard. This central space is disconnected from the rest of the piazza due to added levels of containment provided from the raised platform and landscaping.

PLANTS/TREES

Planters with shrubs and trees are embedded into the raised platform to add another level of protection. The surrounding ring of trees offers too much protection, disconnecting the central space from the rest of the piazza.

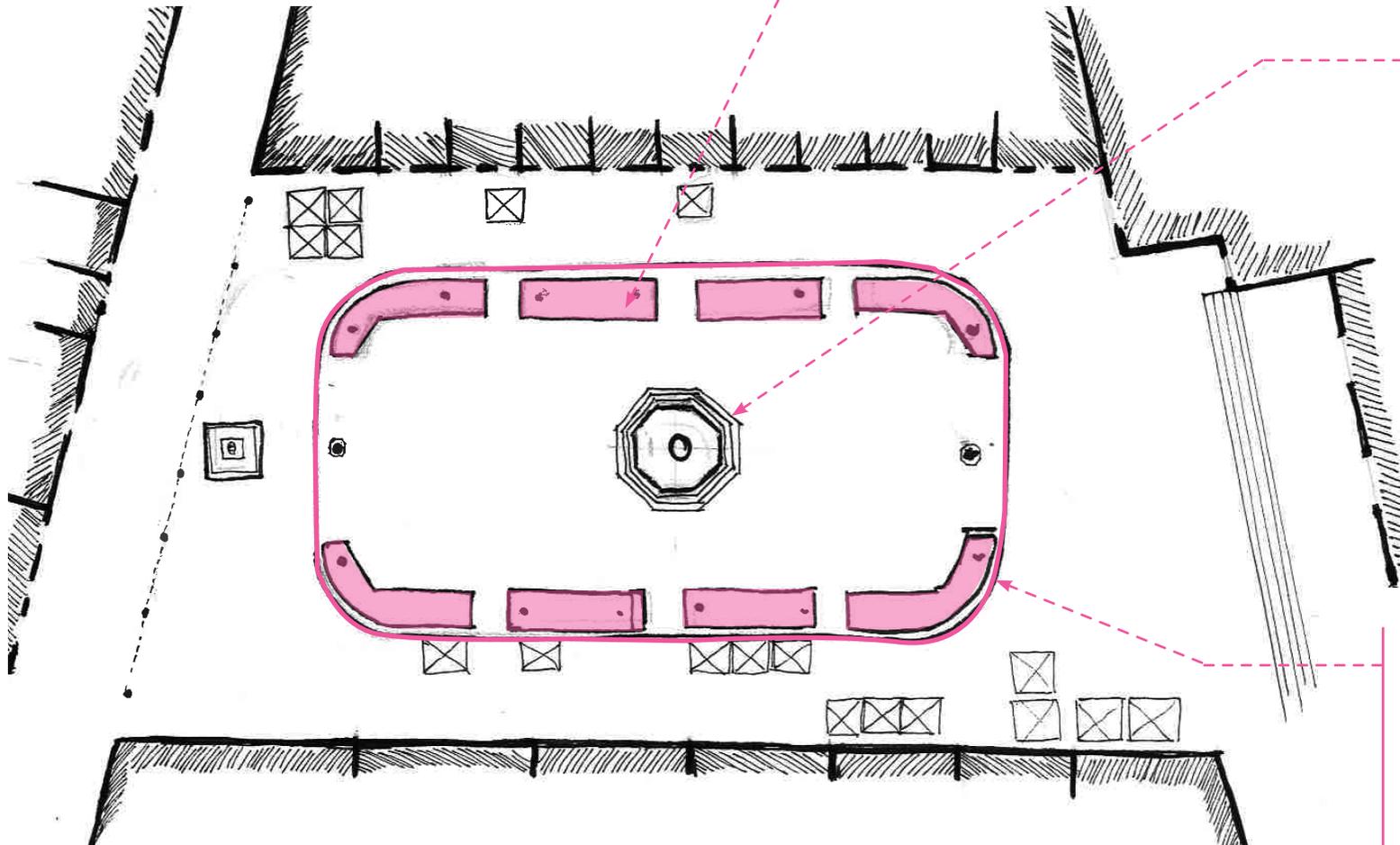
FOUNTAIN

The central fountain creates a central focal point in the piazza. The steps up surrounding the fountain offer seating and an added level of protection.



RAISED STEP

The central space in this piazza is raised one step up from the street level to create the first barrier of protection.



Lesson Learned...

VICENZA PIAZZA

[DELLE ERBE] [DELLE BIADE] [DEI SIGNORI] [PALLADIO]

PIAZZA DEI SIGNORI

PIAZZETTA PALLADIO

PIAZZA DELLE BIADE

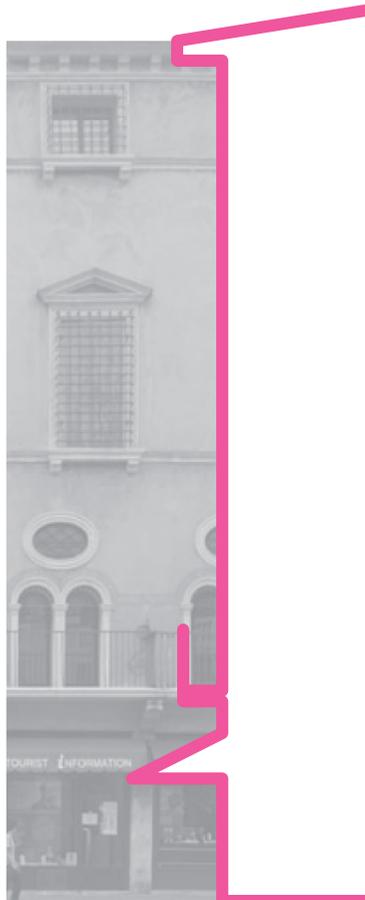
PIAZZA DELLE ERBE





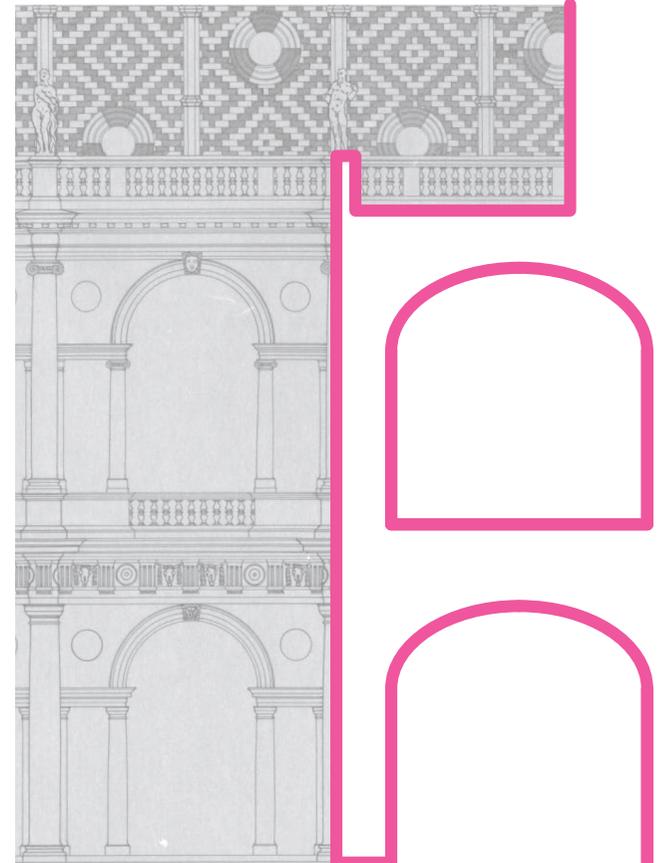
PIAZZETTA PALLADIO

A typical building in Piazzetta Palladio with an arcaded facade raised up from the street by a couple steps.



PIAZZA DEI SIGNORI

A typical building in the Piazza dei Signori with operable awnings above the street level shops and balconies above.



BASILICA PALLADIANA

Palladio's façade wrapped around the basilica with arcades on the ground and first floor, and rooftop terrace above.

PIAZZA DEI SIGNORI . PIAZZA DELLE BIADE

[VICENZA]

MATERIAL PALETTE



STUCCO



ROUGH
STONE

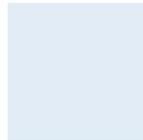


MARBLE



BRICK

COLOR PALETTE



% OF EXCEPTIONAL FACADES

LOGGIA: 2.2%

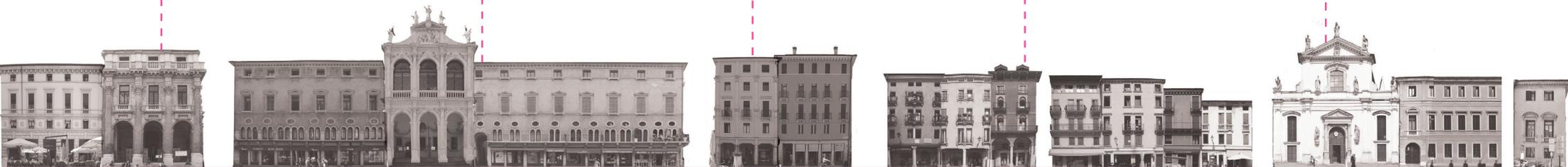
SIGNORI CHURCH: 1.2%

BASILICA PALLADIO: 22%

SIGNORI TOWER: 0.86%

BIADE CHURCH: 0.98%

ERBE TOWER: 3.1%





DAVIS CARLISLE



ANDREW LAI



JOEY MOSER



RYAN MCGOWEN

[THE END]