

HISTORICAL URBAN STUDIES



The Market and the City

Square, Street and Architecture
in Early Modern Europe

Donatella Calabi



W

CiA

Istituto Universitario Architettura Venezia

STUT

EU

59

Servizio Bibliografico Audiovisivo
e di Documentazione

The Market and the City

Square, Street and Architecture in Early
Modern Europe

DONATELLA CALABI

Translated by Marlene Klein

ISTITUTO UNIVERSITARIO ARCHITETTURA
VENEZIA
AREA SERVIZI BIBLIOGRAFICI E DOCUMENTALI
INV. CIA 21458

ASHGATE

Contents

<i>List of Illustrations</i>	xi
<i>General Editors' Preface</i>	xvii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xix
<i>Abbreviations</i>	xxi
<i>Introduction</i>	xxiii

Part I Market Spaces and Urban Structure

1	Orbem in Urbe Vidimus...	3
	Towards a topography of trade in the early modern city	3
	Studying the configuration of space	9
	The notion of <i>portus</i> : a permanent square	11
	Order amidst mixed uses	13
	Thousands of variations: the transmission of models	15
	Long-term reform	17
	The ' <i>longue durée</i> ' and architectural history	21
2	The 'Ease of Provisioning'	25
	Site and images	25
	The market <i>insula</i>	26
	The bridge with shops	29
	Physical discontinuity, chronological continuity	36
3	The Market in the City	40
	At the beginning, on the outskirts	40
	Venice	40
	Paris	43
	Nuremberg	45
	Elsewhere, in the centre	48
	Augsburg	50
	Lübeck	53
	Little by little, greater articulation	56
	Venice, once again	56
	Florence	59
	Antwerp	64

Amsterdam	70
The diffused model	75
Seville	76
London	85
Diversity, fragmentation, form	91
4 Disorder and Mixed Use: The Concept of 'Boundary'	95
Norms and increasing trade	95
Interference and interplay: stands, shops, houses	103
Ownership and conflicts of interest	107
The culture of the square and its image	112
Legal and physical boundaries	116

Part II Commercial Buildings: Use and Form

5 The Regularity of the Square	127
The square's geometry and the 'line' of shops	127
Venice: San Giacomo at Rialto	130
Florence: the Uffizi and the corridor	133
Genoa and Piazza Banchi	137
Seville and the problem of the <i>plaza mayor</i>	143
6 Some Buildings	151
Covered markets, <i>halles</i> , <i>draperies</i>	151
The <i>Halle aux Draps</i>	155
The Fabbriche Vecchie	159
The Clothworkers' Hall	161
Bread, meat, fish, fruit and vegetables	162
Along the banks of the Grand Canal	162
In the centre of Florence	164
In the cities of Spain	165
In the city of London	166
Banks, business and the bourse	172
The Antwerp bourse	175
The Royal Exchange of London	176
The Amsterdam bourse	180
The Casa Lonja of Seville	182
The Loggia of Genoa	185
<i>Fondaci</i> : public warehouses and lodgings	187
The surplus granaries	188

CONTENTS

ix

The <i>albergarie</i> of the Germans, Turks and Persians in Venice	195
The Hansa House in Antwerp	202
<i>Index</i>	205

HISTORICAL URBAN STUDIES

General Editors: Jean-Luc Pinol and Richard Rodger

The early modern period is often characterised as a time that witnessed the rise of a new and powerful merchant class across Europe. From Italy and Spain in the south, to the Low Countries and England in the north, men of business and trade came to play an increasingly pivotal role in the culture, politics and economies of western Europe. This book takes a comparative approach to the effect such merchants and traders had on the urban history of market places – streets, squares and specific buildings – in some of the great commercial European cities between the 15th and 17th centuries. It looks at how in this period, the transformations of designated commercial areas were important enough to modify relationships throughout the entire urban context.

Market places tend to be very ancient, continuing to function for centuries on the same location; but between the middle of the 14th and the first decades of the 17th, their structures began to change as new regulations and patterns of manufacture, distribution and consumption began to install a new uniformity and geometry on the market place. During the period covered by this study, most major European cities undertook the rebuilding of entire zones, constructing new buildings, demolishing existing structures and embellishing others.

This book analyses the intentions of innovation, in parallel with the sanitary and hygienic reasons, the juridical regulations of the architecture of certain building types and the urban strategies as efficient tools to better control the economic activities within the city.

About the author:

Donatella Calabi teaches at L'Istituto Universitario di Architettura di Venezia, Italy.

ASHGATE

Ashgate Publishing Limited
Gower House, Croft Road
Aldershot, Hampshire
GU11 3HR, England

www.ashgate.com

ISBN 0-7546-0893-X



9 780754 608936