Despite being written over 120 years ago, Camillo Sitte's most famous work is still seen as relevant today as it was when published in 1889. City Planning according to Artistic Principles is not purely an attack on the modern planning systems of the time, but an attempt to define a unity between modern and artistic methods through the creation of suitable public space.

Sitte was concerned that impressive modern buildings were increasingly being seen against a backdrop of poor public space as all resources were poured into the architecture of a building.

Sitte revered late medieval plazas, he saw Baroque planning as especially relevant to modern urban design. In his own designs, included in the book, it is Baroque that he uses. Sitte shows how Baroque achieves the essential quality of enclosure, albeit in a different way. The Baroque avenue, for instance, although linear, is invariably terminated by a monument or building. Furthermore, both medieval and Baroque enclosed plans succeed because of the effect they have on the viewer in the street. Only in this way can urban design be aesthetic or "artistic." The fact that medieval is informal and Baroque formal simply means that they provide two different models for aesthetic urban planning, with no particular preference assigned to either. Both can provide visually pleasing views in a city.

His Idea: - City Planning according to Artistic Principles

Fig. 94. Parco, Piazza del Popolo