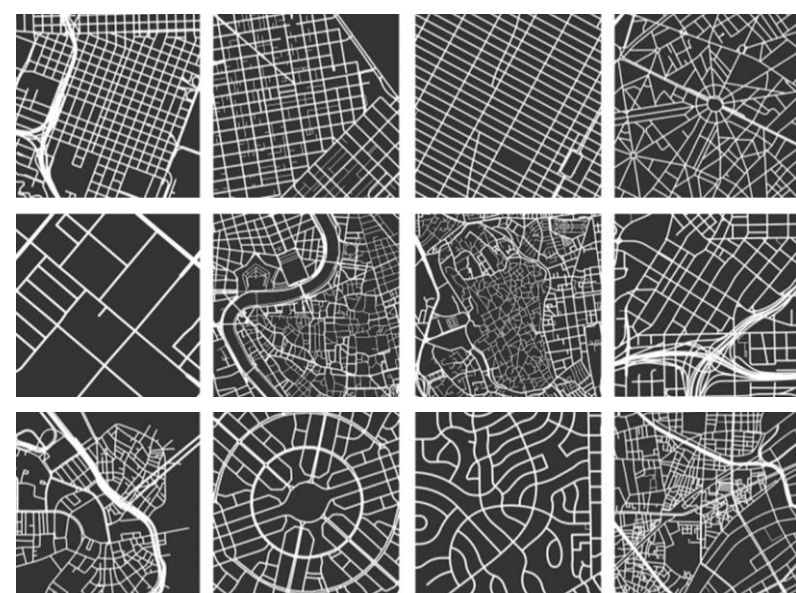




MILANO:
LOCAL HISTORY OF
THE
CITY SHAPE



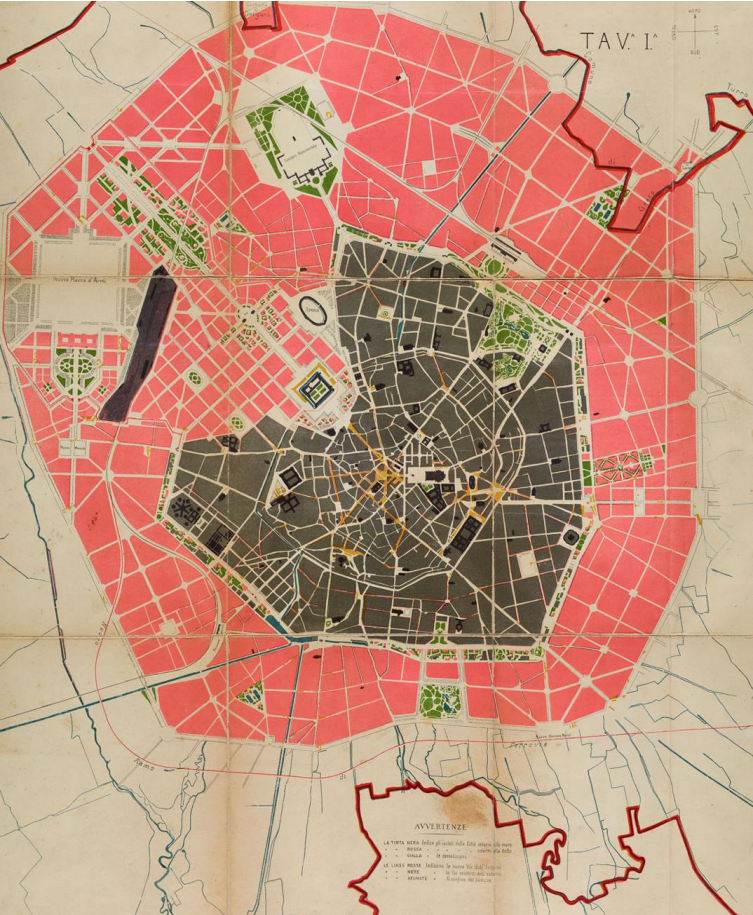
1884

THE CITY PLAN OF MILANO IS LIKE THE SECTION OF A TREE TRUNK, IN WHICH YOU CAN SEE THE CONCENTRIC LAYERS AND THE RADIALS.



AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS CONFIRM THIS LAYOUT...

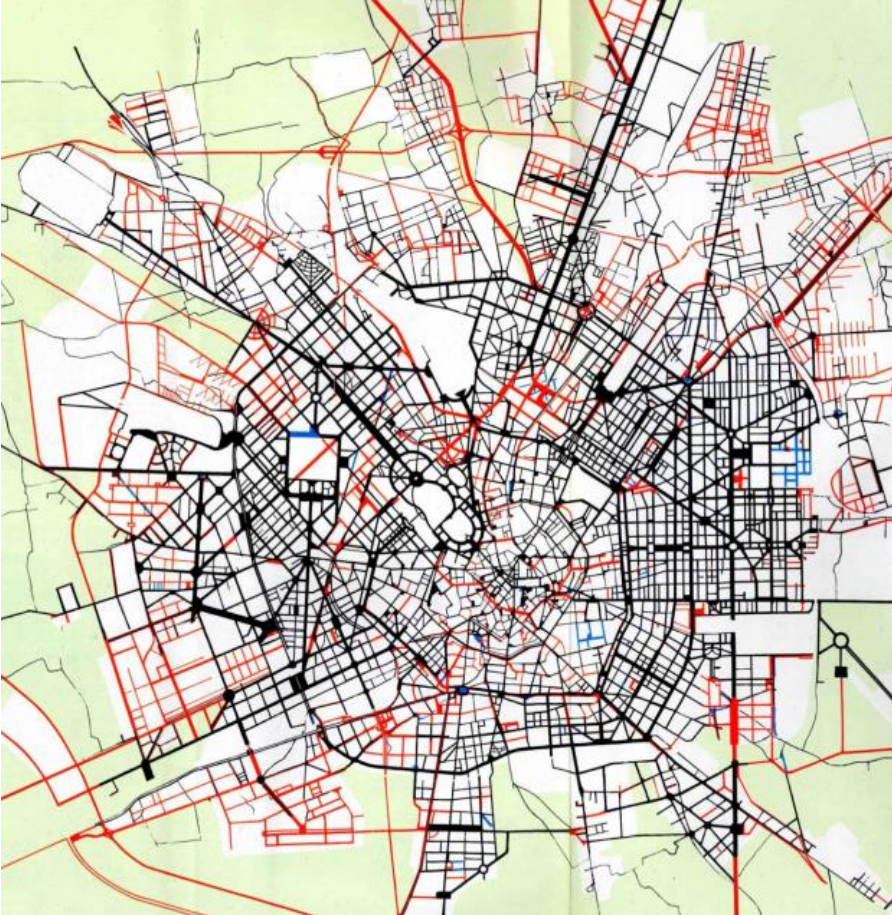
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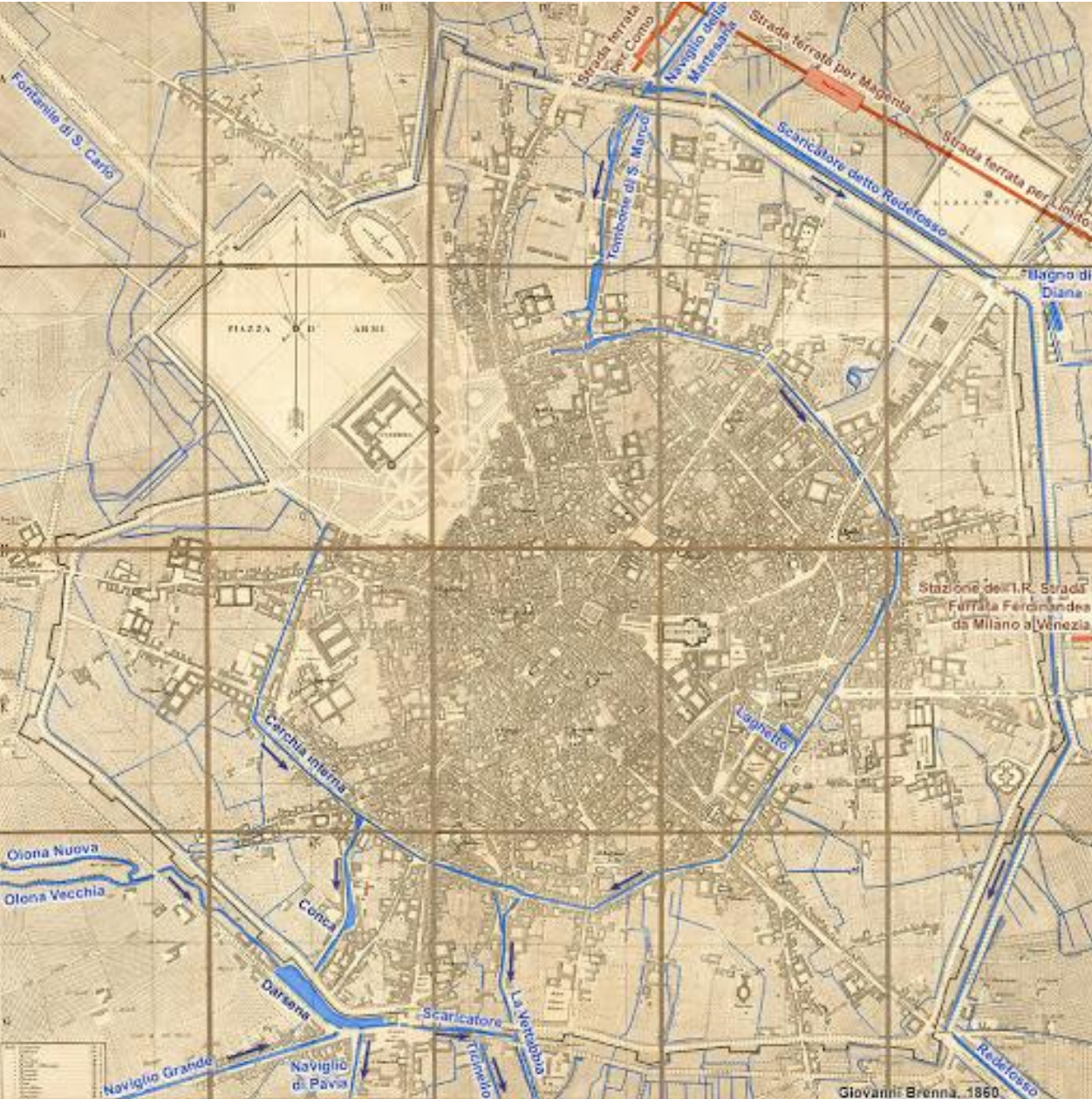
1912-34



1954



... ALONG WITH THE WATER SYSTEM



WHERE DOES
THIS SHAPE
COME FROM?

LET'S GO BACK
IN TIME...

DUE TO THE CITY
WALLS AND
THEIR MOATS
THE
CONCENTRIC
LAYERS
GRADUALLY
GROW

THRESHOLD 8



1704



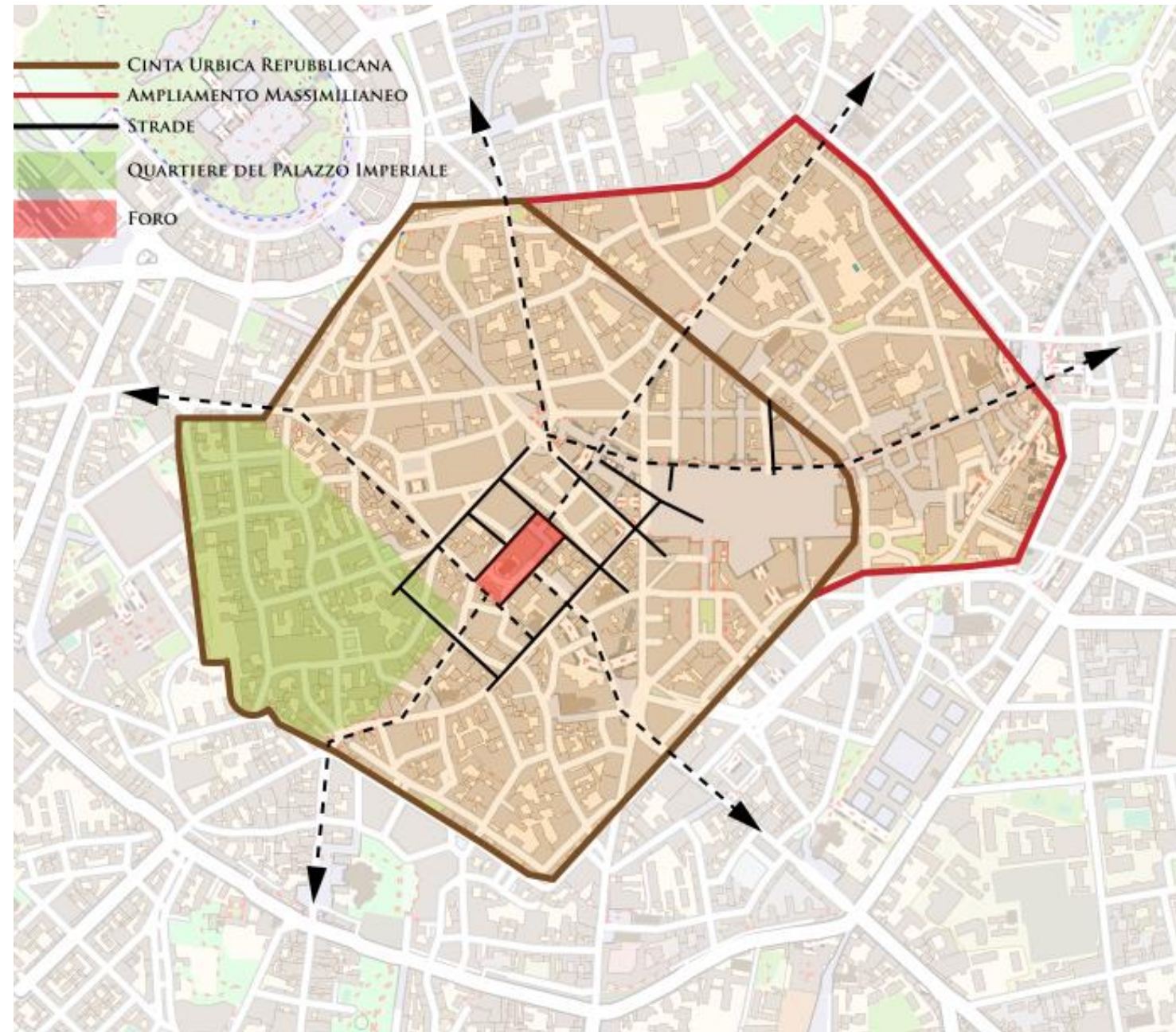
1573



XIV sec.

THRESHOLD 7

...TILL THE ROMAN EMPIRE



WE CAN SEE:

- THE FIRST CITY WALL THAT NOW IS STILL A PRESENT MARK AS A RING ROAD.
- DECUMANUS AND CARDO CROSSING PERPENDICULARLY. AT THEIR INTERSECTION THERE IS THE ROMAN FORUM.



IN 1992 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS OF THE FORUM WERE FOUND UNDER THE AMBROSIAN ART GALLERY.

WE CAN ASK OURSELVES: WHY DID ANCIENT ROMANS BUILD MILANO RIGHT THERE?

- BECAUSE THEY CONQUERED A CELTIC SETTLEMENT.
- BECAUSE THE CITY HAD A STRATEGIC POSITION.
- BECAUSE OF THE PRESENCE OF WATER BODIES.
- BECAUSE IT WAS NEAR A MARSHLAND WITH KARST SPRINGS: EASY TO PROTECT.



AT LAST IF WE WANT TO UNDERSTAND THE REASON WHY THE PO VALLEY WAS A SO SUITABLE PLACE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENT WE MUST LOOK BACK TO THE LAST ICE AGE.