



Figure 3.3 The planning of Rome by Sixtus V.

Figure 3.4 S. Maria Maggiore, Rome.



the actions of countless individuals and groups: it is, therefore incumbent on all engaged in this long communal process of urban design to appreciate and understand the forces which have formed the environment and to distinguish clearly those structures which give direction to future development. A basic survey of the history of the site is a standard procedure for any urban design project. These standard procedures have already been outlined; following them gives a sensitive designer much to stimulate the thought process. However, an understanding of the design forces, the almost natural and self-evident structuring components, requires greater effort than the automatic implementation of a set of standard survey procedures. It requires the understanding of the historic forces which continue to pattern development. Understanding these forces enables each designer to perform effectively the critical role of the 'second person'.

Completing the items on the basic check list of studies for site history outlined earlier is fundamental for any urban design project. A rational analysis should go further: it would include an examination of the main form-giving components of city development. These studies involve the examination of the