



PIAZZA DEL CAMPIDOGGIO, ROME

## Public squares

Public squares play an important role in the cultural, social and commercial life of cities. Squares should be designed or modified for diverse and flexible public uses. The function and design of buildings that form the enclosing edge of these spaces have a great impact on the success and popularity of an urban square (see the section on Built edges, p. 137). Frequently used or

symbolic public buildings, together with eating and drinking establishments, are often essential as enclosing structures for a square to be well used. The landscape design of public squares takes building form into consideration, but may also involve the creation of new forms and identity for an urban space.