



Porta Catena e Saliente
Up to the point where Corso Porta Po meets Viale Cavour, the only structure of note is a trapezoidal salient. To the north of this, in 1938, two archways were built: these were known as the Porta Catena, due to the proximity of the access structure of the same name located at the mouth of the navigable canal that connected the Po in Pontelagoscuro to the Castello Estense trench.

Baluardi di Santa Maria e di San Paolo
These two bastions are the only testament to the fortress that was built between 1608 and 1618, equipped with five arrow bastions, barracks, depositories, gunpowder, armouries, the residence of the castellan, and the church of Santa Maria dell'Annunziata. In 1859 the structure was demolished once and for all. Only the bastions of Santa Maria and San Paolo and the Marian church left still standing, even if the church was later destroyed by bombs in the World War II. On the embankment of the two bastions, the statue depicting Paul V, once placed at the centre of the fortress, is still visible.

monumental archways of Ferrara, particularly with regard to its late Mannerist and proto-Baroque architectural language. The Este Walls Documentation Centre at Porta Po was created to raise awareness and appreciation of the walls and how they have changed through history. The story is told through themed panels, films, models, and multimedia applications. Since 2021, Porta Po has been the headquarters of the food and wine organisation Associazione Strada dei Vini e dei Sapori, set up to promote the local area.

Porta Paola
The current structure was built in 1612 in accordance with the plans drawn by Ferrarese architect Giovan Battista Aleotti, who designed it in honour of the reigning Pope Paolo V Borghese, from which the name of the navigable canal that connected the Po in Pontelagoscuro to the Castello Estense trench.

Baluardo di San Lorenzo
Built in 1583 and renovated in the papal period, the Baluardo di San Lorenzo stands on the site of the ancient Castelnovo bastion. This structure constitutes part of the defensive system built to protect the Porta Paola gate, which was built in 1612. At the beginning of the 20th century, the top of the bastion was used for the weekly market and was commonly known as the "horse market".

Baluardo e Porta di San Pietro
The Baluardo di San Pietro is the first of the state-of-the-art fortifications built by Alfonso II d'Este between 1578 and 1585 in order to modernise and strengthen the pre-existing 15th century walls. During the construction of the bastion, the merlons of the 15th century walls and the tower that stood at the Porta Paola gate, which was built in 1612, designed by Giovan Battista Aleotti. In 1630 the opening of the Porta di San Pietro was definitively walled up.

(1413-1471) to order new walls to be built in order to protect the entire southern area.

Mura di Borso
The gradual drying up of the Po distributary which skirts the urban settlement on the island of Sant'Antonio in Polesine that once stood in the middle of the river between the end of the 14th and the first half of the 15th century. Nicolò III d'Este (1383-1441) ordered the first steps towards building a defence for the urban dwelling. The further drying up of the Po river led Leonello d'Este (1407-1450) and above all his successor Borso

Baluardo di Sant'Antonio
Located at the Benedictine monastery of Sant'Antonio in Polesine, this bastion is the central element of the southern system of bastion defences behind the banks of the river Po which was almost completely buried at the end of the 16th century.

Porta Romana
The current ruins are all that remains of the architectural complex that until the end of the 16th century overlooked the main southern entrance of the city. In order to protect the Porta di San Giorgio gate (known as Porta Romana from 1798 onwards), between 1557 and 1563, the dukes Ercole II and Alfonso II d'Este ordered the construction of a new bastion. The Porta was transformed into the monumental *Prospettiva* arch. The changes and the disasters at the end of the 19th century led to the functional decentralisation of the building, resulting in architectural damage.

Baluardo dell'Amore - Parco Archeologico
Built onto the curtain wall constructed by Borso d'Este in the mid-fifteenth century, the Baluardo dell'Amore with its typical ace of spades shape was actually added more than a century later: it was Alfonso II d'Este who commissioned a major series of works to strengthen the southern fortifications near the Po between 1578 and 1585 according to the plans drawn by engineers and military specialists. The Archaeological Park allows visitors to rediscover the remains of the ancient curtain wall and the Porta d'Amore. The ravelin of 1557 can be found after passing through the gate. A walkway has been installed above this curtain wall, at the centre of which there's the upper level of the Porta dell'Amore.

Torrione di Barco
With an external diameter of 21 metres, it is the largest circular defensive tower of those designed by Biagio Rossetti along the fortified perimeter of the historic Ercolean Addition. Built from 1493 onwards, it stands at its north-western vertex.

Mura Rossettiane
Built between 1493 and 1505 by Biagio Rossetti, Alessandro Biondo, and Bartolomeo Tristano, the walls of Ferrara mark the transition from vertical defences to horizontal bastion defences and represent one of the most famous examples in Italian military architecture of this transition to a later defensive system. A water moat, which though shallow, was very wide (between 35 and 80 metres), made any attempt to approach the crenellated curtain wall exceedingly difficult.

Porta degli Angeli
Located at the end of the ancient via degli Angeli, this Porta was the only gateway in the fortified walls that provided access from the north and which were built between 1493 to 1505 around the area of urban expansion better known as the Ercolean Addition. Restored between 1984 and 1991, it was the subject of many transformations over the centuries with the changing of its functions.

Parco urbano Giorgio Bassani
Situating between the city and the River Po, the park overlays the ancient territory of Barco. It was the Este family's hunting reserve, annexed to the Delizia di Belfiore within the city walls. It was a place given over to leisure and entertainment but also served to extend the Ercolean Addition walls' defensive system as far as the Po.

Torrione di San Giovanni Battista
Built between 1493 and 1497, this fortified tower kept

watch over the Porta of the same name at the eastern end of the long decumanus road of the Ercolean Addition urban area. In 1518, Duke Alfonso I d'Este decided to cover the tower with a conical roof, while the original battlements were filled in during the first half of the 19th century. After the French occupation of 1796, the gate was named *Porta Mare* and the entire complex was subject to the first in a series of functional modifications. Since 1999, the Torrione di San Giovanni has been the home of the Ferrara Jazz Club.

Baluardo e doccile di San Tommaso
With a typical arrow shape and with no rounded *orecchioni* ramparts on its sides, the bastion was built when the Alfonso I d'Este decided to reinforce the defences of the south-eastern area of the city. A short distance away is the 18th century *doccile* of San Tommaso, a sort of canal that was built in 1524 in order to convey the waste from the city's sewers.

Baluardo della Montagna
Between 1518 and 1522 the new wall was built between the Porta di San Giorgio and the Baluardo di San Tommaso. In 1518 Sebastiano Bonmartini designed the large arrow-shaped Baluardo della Montagna. An enormous mountain (called the Montagna di San Giorgio) was created on top of the bastion with the earth from the excavations which served as a cavalier upon which the powerful artillery of Duke Alfonso d'Este was installed.

Bagni Ducali
The Delizia della Montagna, now known as the Bagni Ducali (Ducal Baths), was the recreational residence built by the Duke Ercole II in 1541 according to the plans drawn by Terzo Terzi. The external façades of this small, simple palace featured frescoes by B. Dossi, G. da

Carpi, C. Filippi, and Garofalo. The fame of the residence was linked to the unique environmental backdrop in which it was set, with waterways brought to life by complex hydraulic devices, which flowed around the vine and flower-covered mountain at the foot of which stood a fish pond of more than 200 metres in length (now Viale Alfonso I d'Este). The mound of earth also hid two underground decorated caves, unfortunately fell into ruin with the exile of the Este dynasty from Ferrara.

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