

“TREVIGLIO”

FROM PIAZZA INSURREZIONE TO PIAZZA GARIBALDI

Taken from “**Treviglio: storia, arte e cultura**” by Barbara Oggioni - *ed. Clessidra 2002*

Via Matteotti was formerly known as Via Impero and is the only arcaded street in the town centre: it was planned round the opening of Central Railway Station in 1879 when there was an idea to demolish the area adjacent to Via Verga to open up a direct route from Piazza Garibaldi down to the railway. The project in Via Matteotti was completed in the second half of the 20th century.

Piazza Garibaldi would seem to have no artistic or historic qualities, but is a significant example of the many layers of history of the city. A part of the ancient *castrum vetus* can be seen in one of the three fortress towers; in direct contrast with this medieval tone a large department store was built in the 1970s. In between, the townscape has seen many changes. Piazza Garibaldi once housed the Convento degli Umiliati built in 1229 and suppressed in 1509; there was a church dedicated to St. Bartholomew and St. Martha, consecrated in 1422 and suppressed in 1880; a cemetery occupied some of the area from 1450 to 1778; St. Martha's Portico was built in 1819 and demolished in 1880; a monument to Giuseppe Garibaldi was moved from there to the public gardens in Largo Caprera; three different theatres, one 18th century, one in 19th century and last built in 1936 and demolished in 1970 all had their day