

# GEOGRAPHIES OF HANGING OUT IN THE POST-WAR, HIGH-RISE NEIGHBOURHOOD

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framing the problem

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main concepts

mapping inequality

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conclusions



**‘Overlast door hangjongeren is van alle tijden’**

fig. 2: ‘Nuisance by loitering youth is nothing new’ (Schmidt, 1994)



▲ De politie heeft vrijdagavond 26 december een grote groep jongeren gecontroleerd bij de tramhalte aan de Papsouwseleen in Delft. © District8

### **Burgemeester laat agenten tot in nieuwe jaar preventief fouilleren na 'ernstige overlast' in Buitenhof en Voorhof**

fig. 3: 'Mayor authorizes preventive stop-and-search by police into the New Year after 'serious disturbances' in Buitenhof and Voorhof.' (Tielemans, 2025)

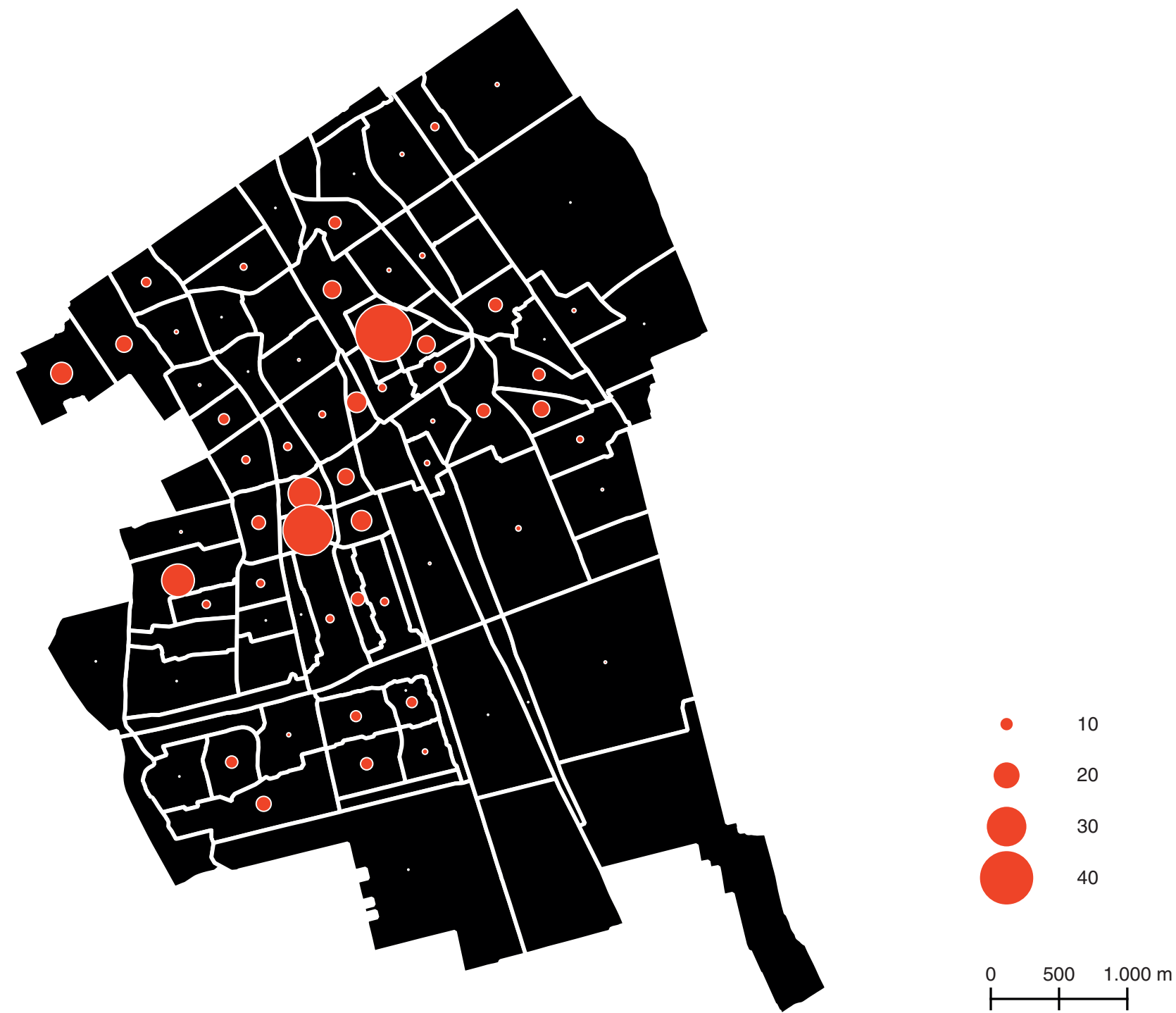


fig. 4: reports of nuisance by youth in Delft (Politie, 2025)

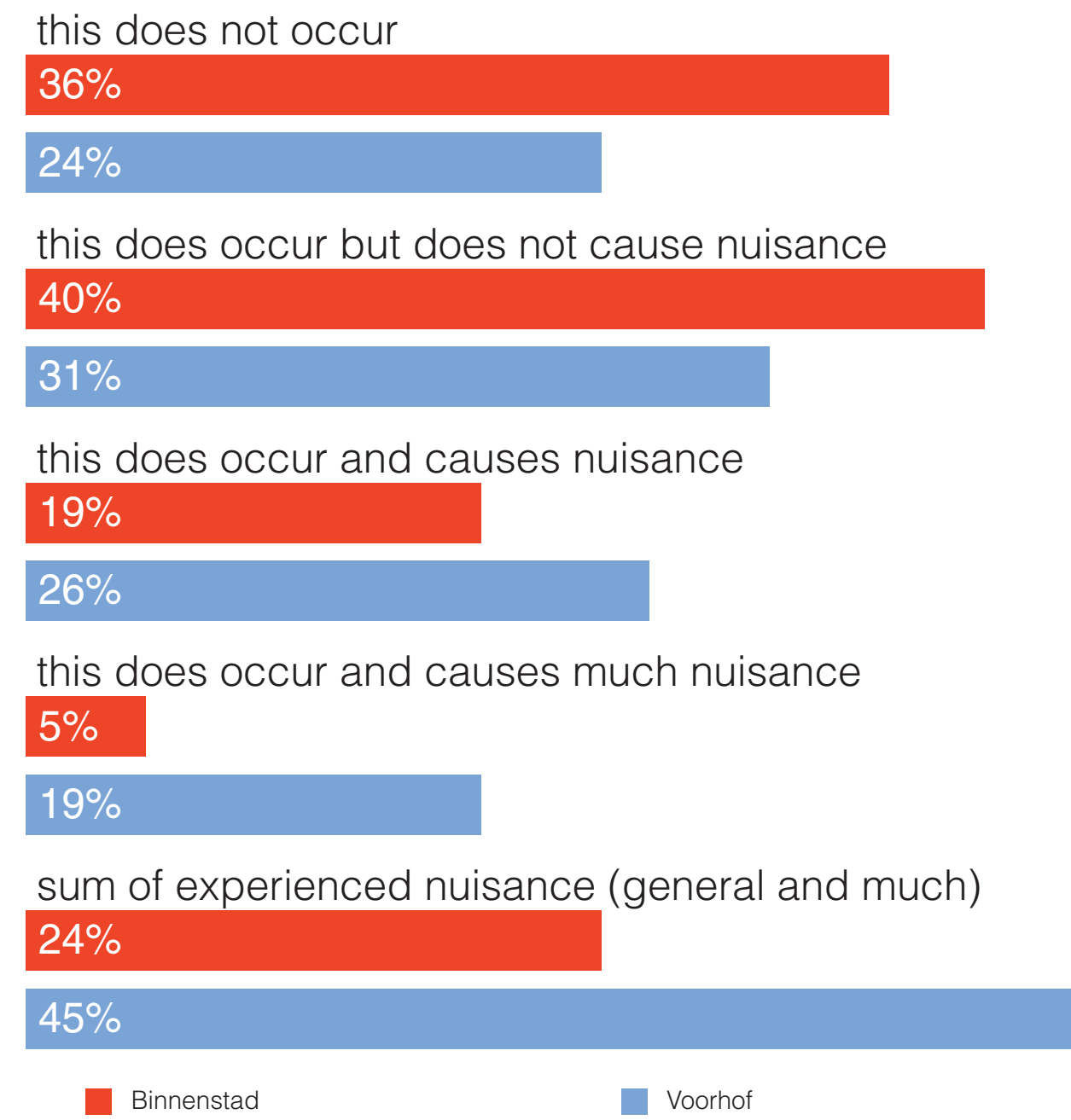


fig. 5: reports of experienced nuisance by loitering youth (Gemeente Delft, 2025)



fig. 6: model of Voorhof (Gemeente Delft, 1969)

What socio-spatial interventions can be taken to enhance social cohesion of adolescent youth in post-war, high-rise neighbourhoods through participatory research methods?

**SQ1: analysis**

What socio-spatial aspects affect the behaviour of the youth and how is this related to the design of post-war, high-rise neighbourhoods?

**SQ2: ethnography**

What are the lived experiences and wishes of the youth in Voorhof concerning public space?

**SQ3: design**

How can the design of public spaces in post-war, high-rise neighbourhoods lessen the density of nuisance by youth at one centrality?

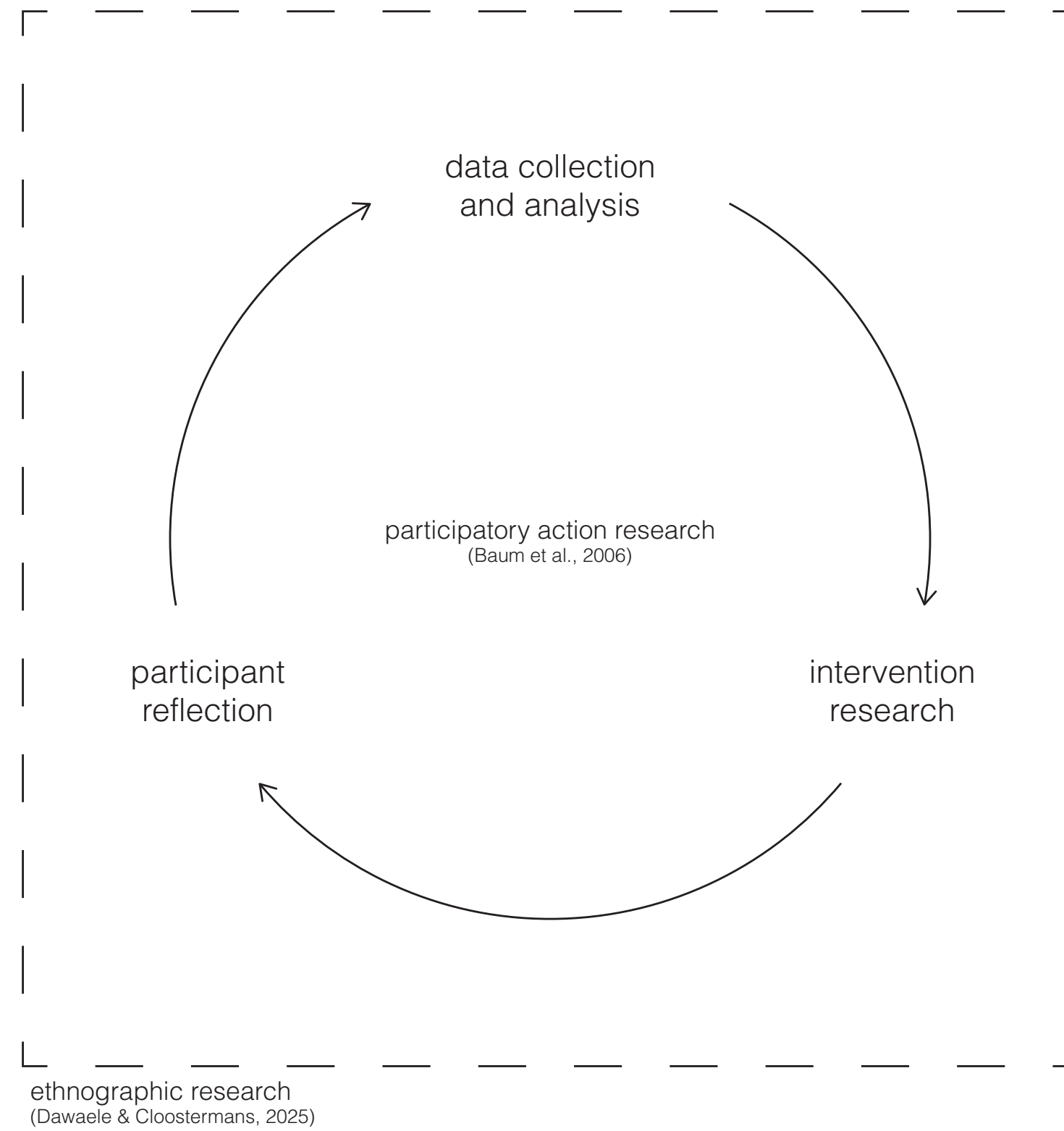


fig. 7: framework of participatory action research within ethnography



fig. 8: photograph of the author in conversation with youth (TU Delft, 2026)



fig. 9: place of interaction



fig. 10: place of retreat



fig. 11: the shifting of tight and loose urban spaces

I got a fine here once just for being here  
because they thought I belonged to  
another group

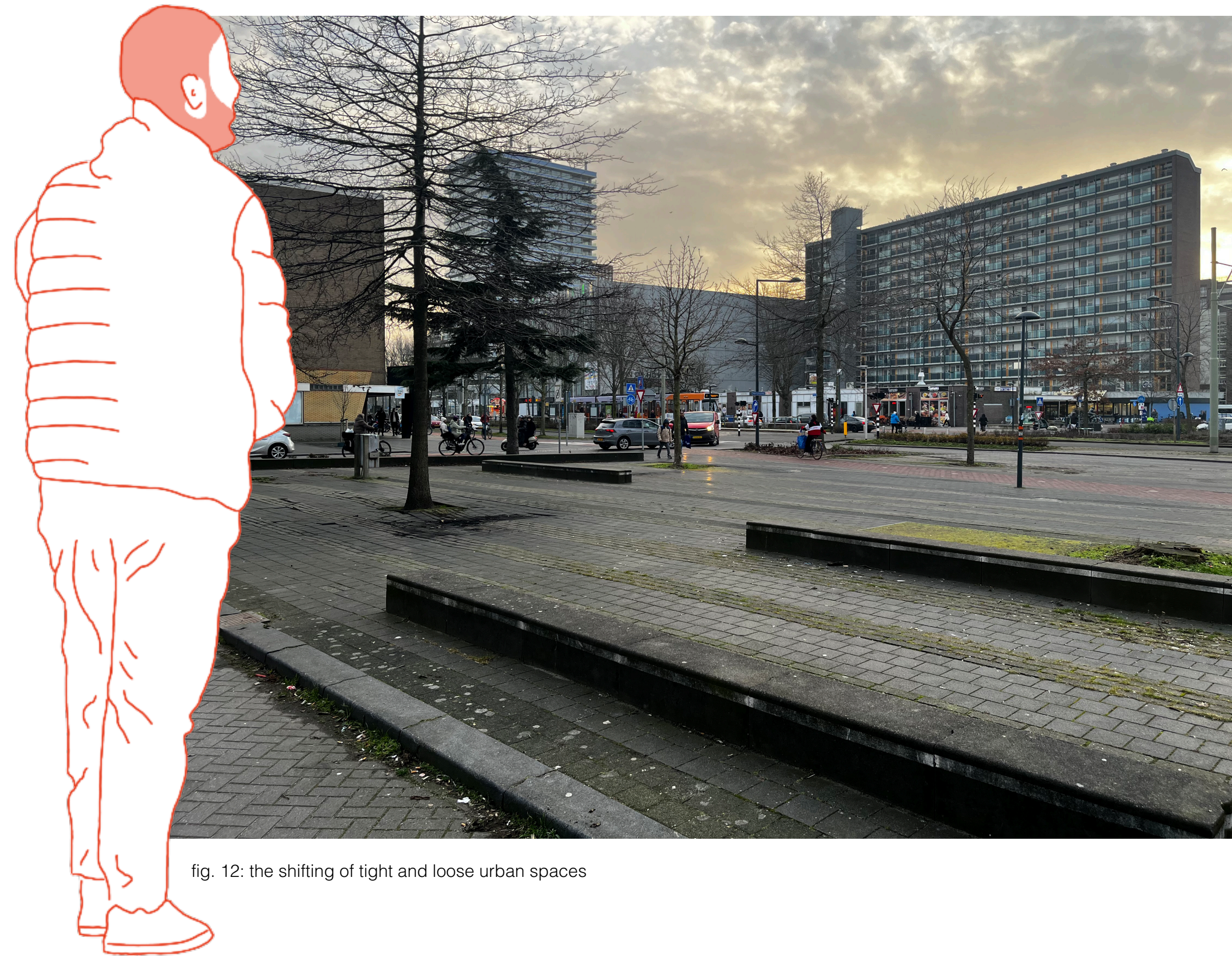
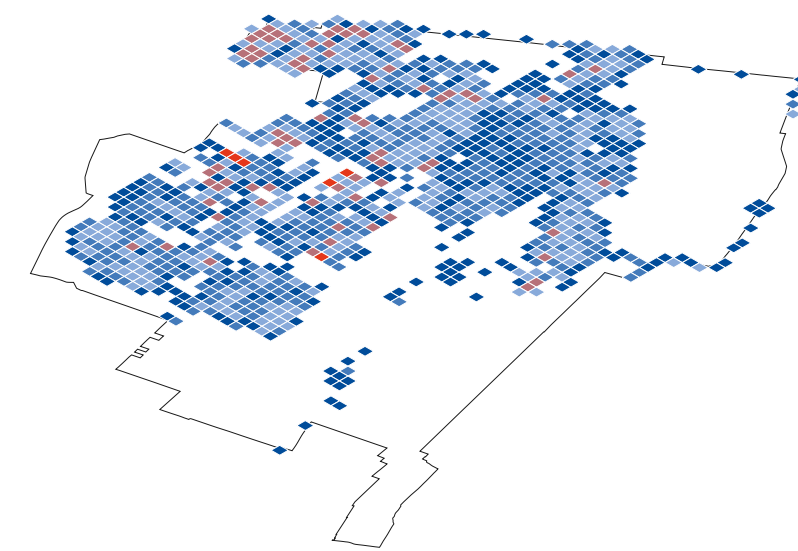
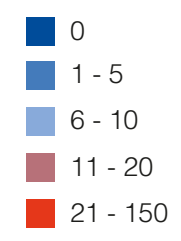
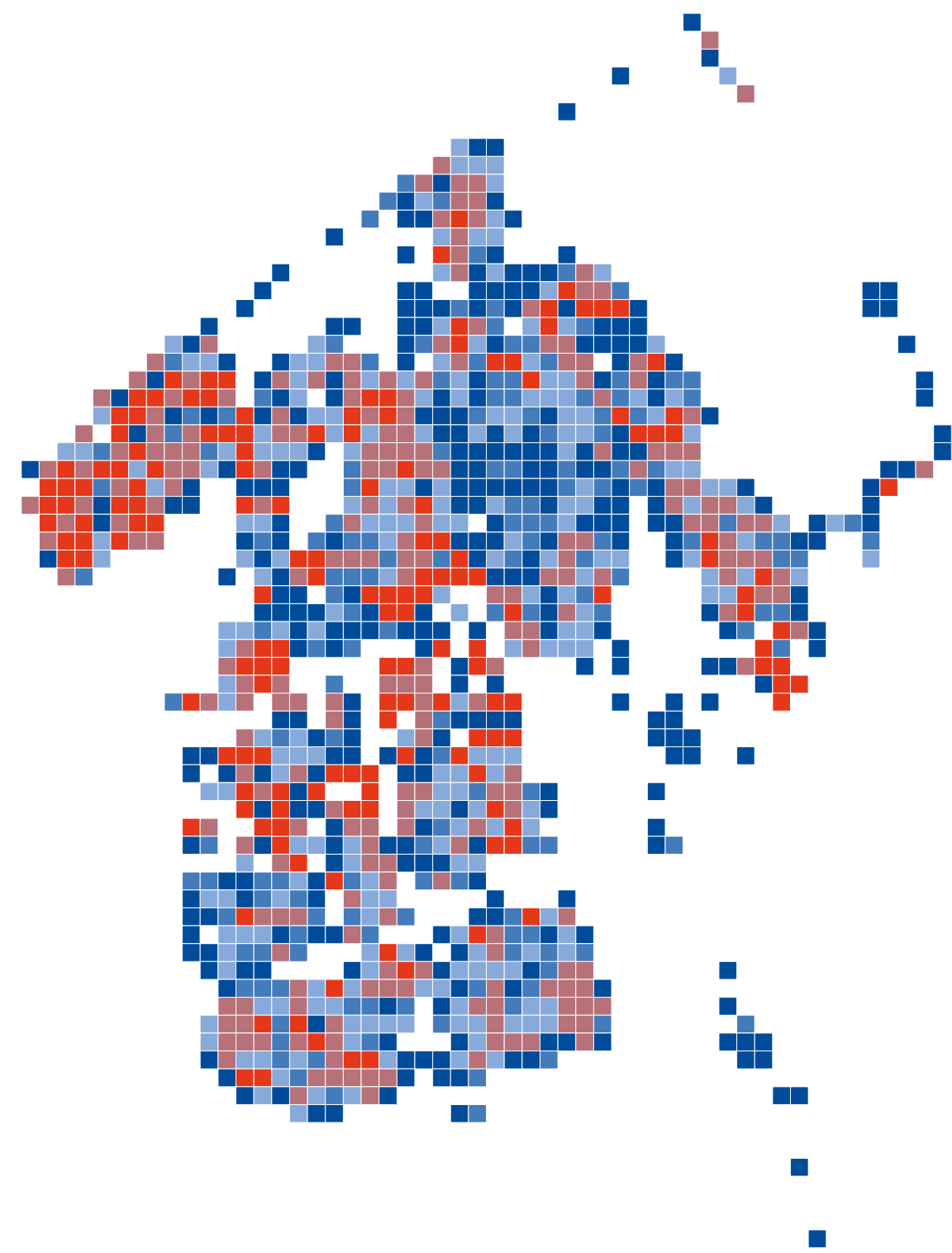
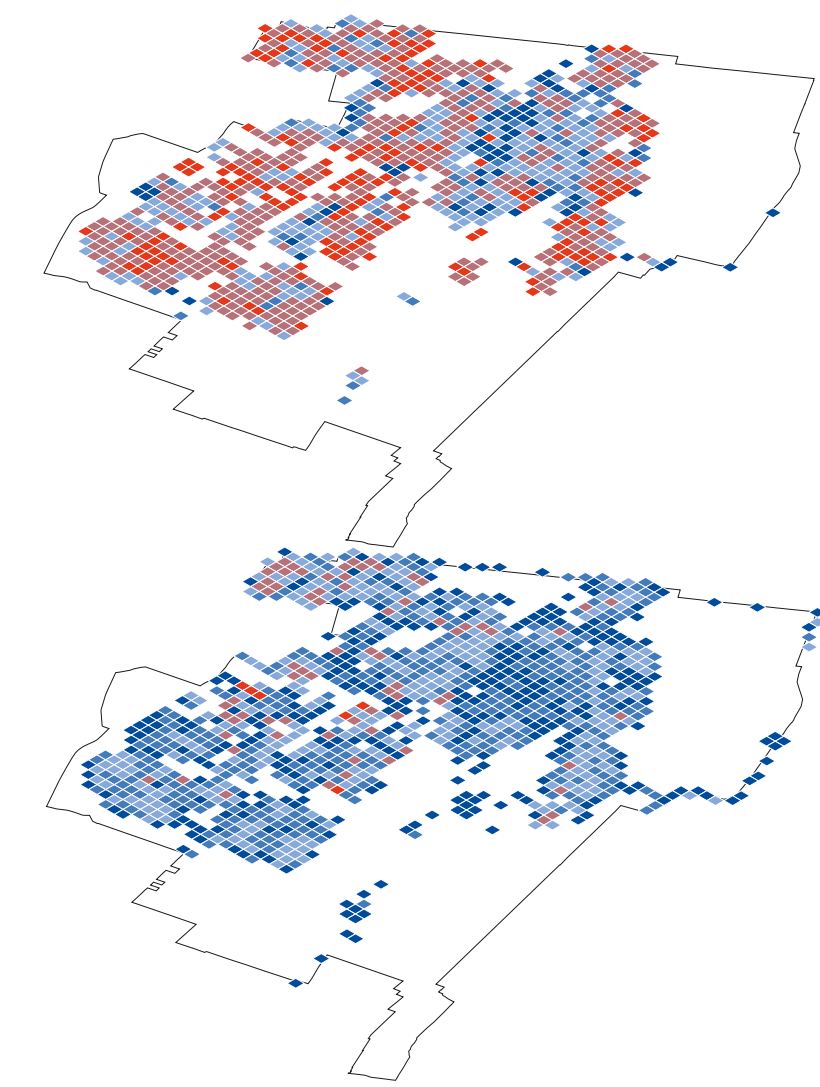
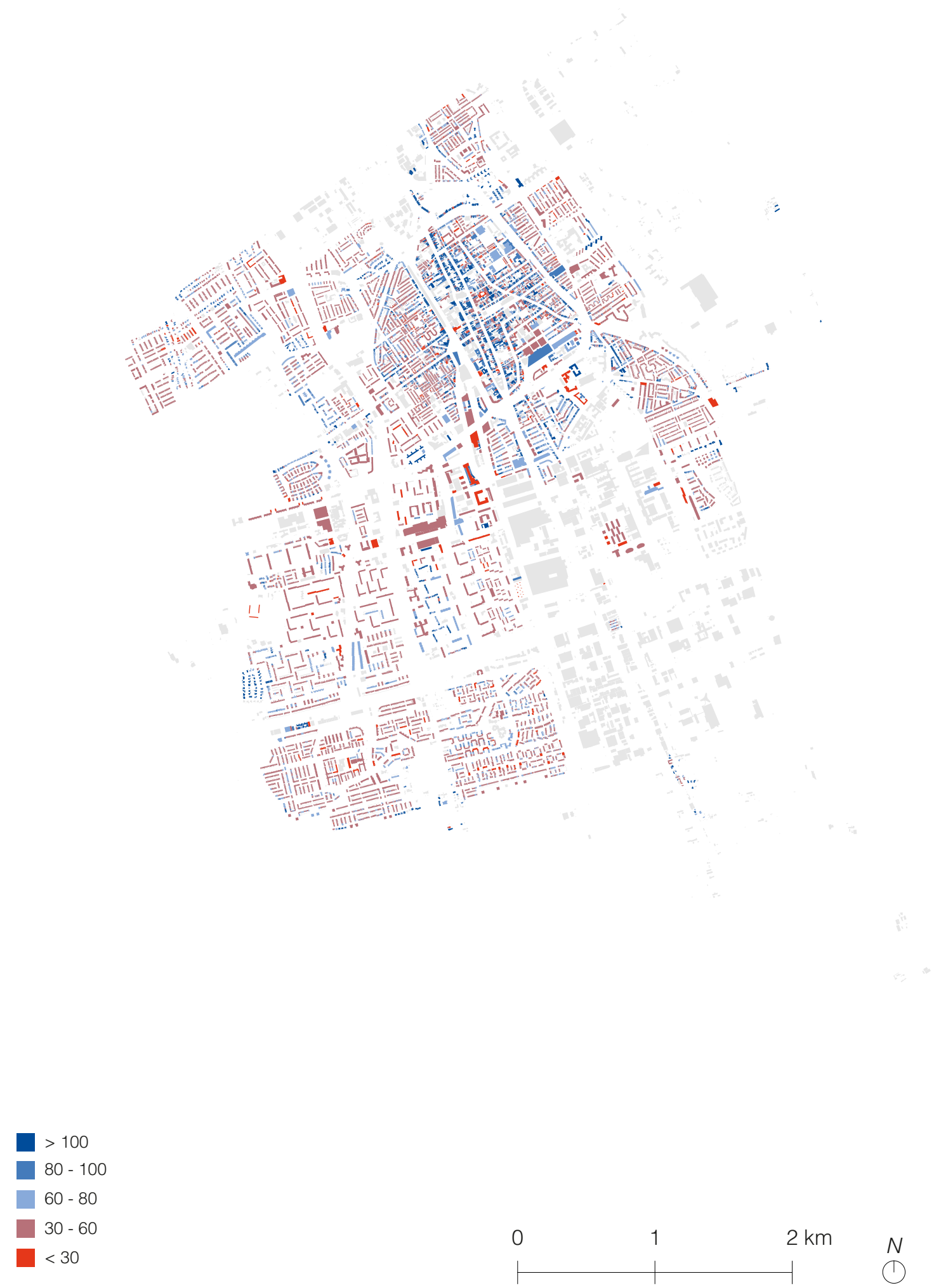
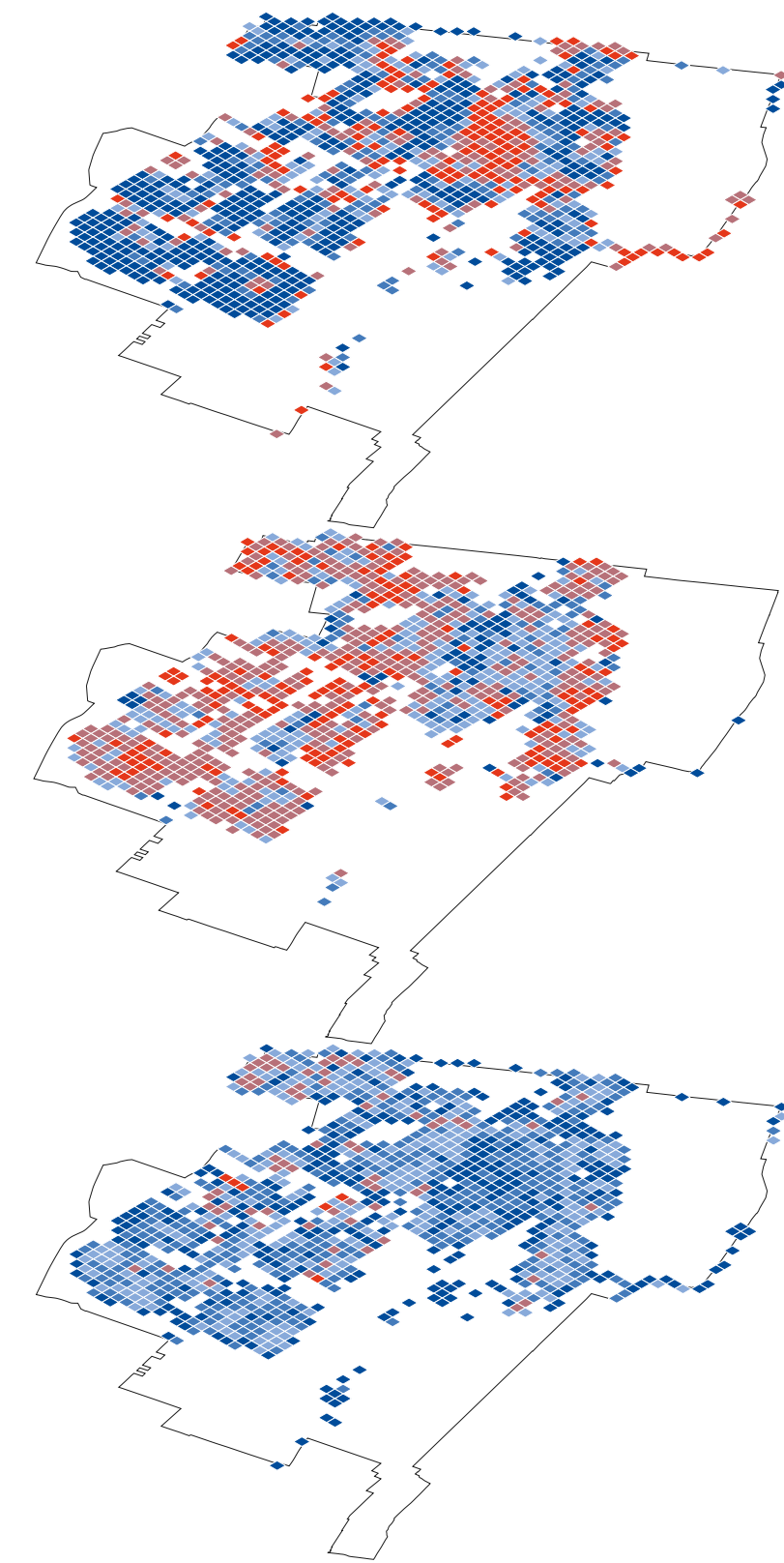
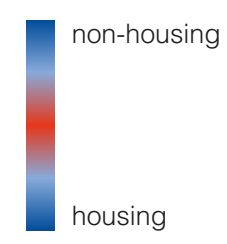
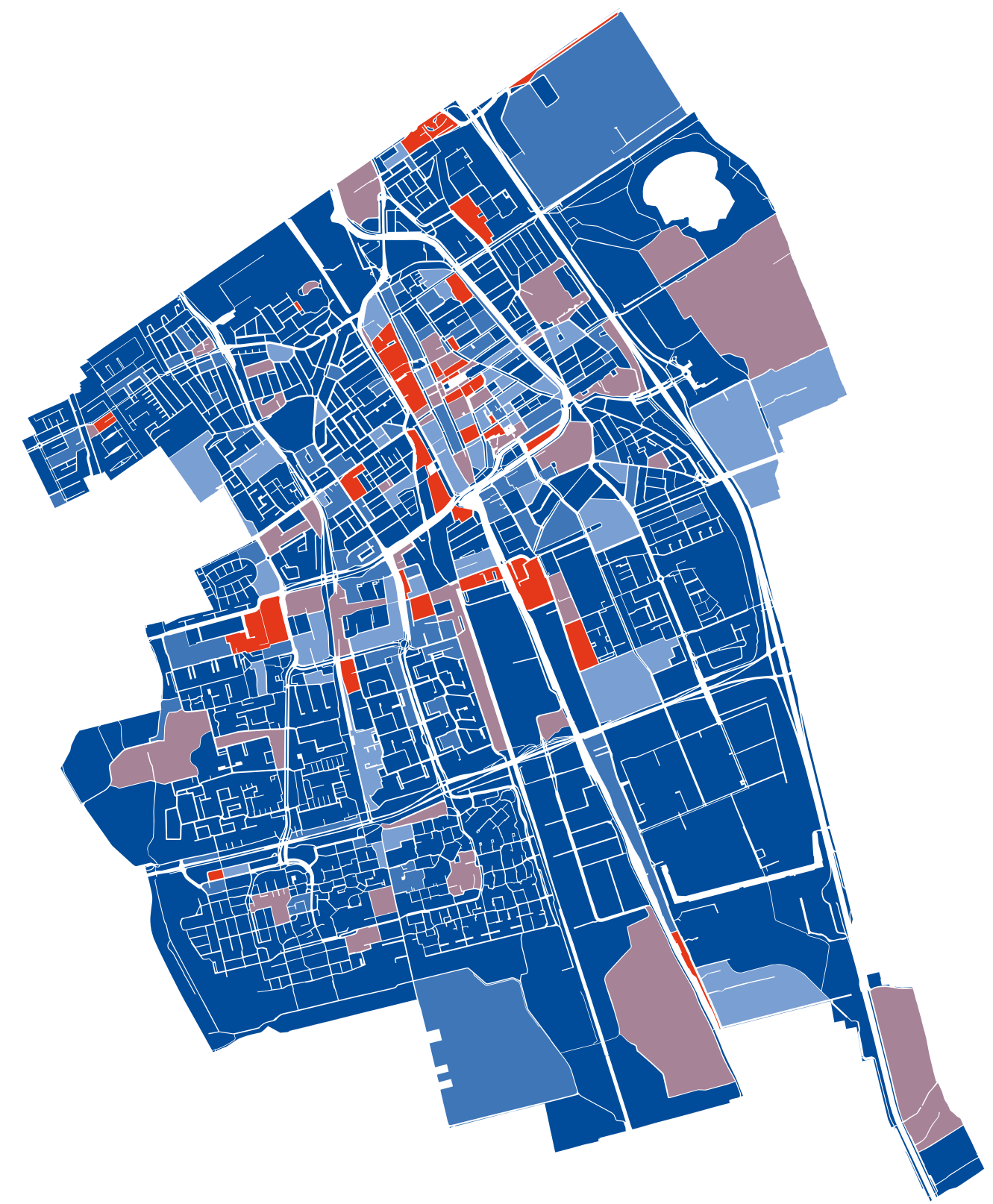
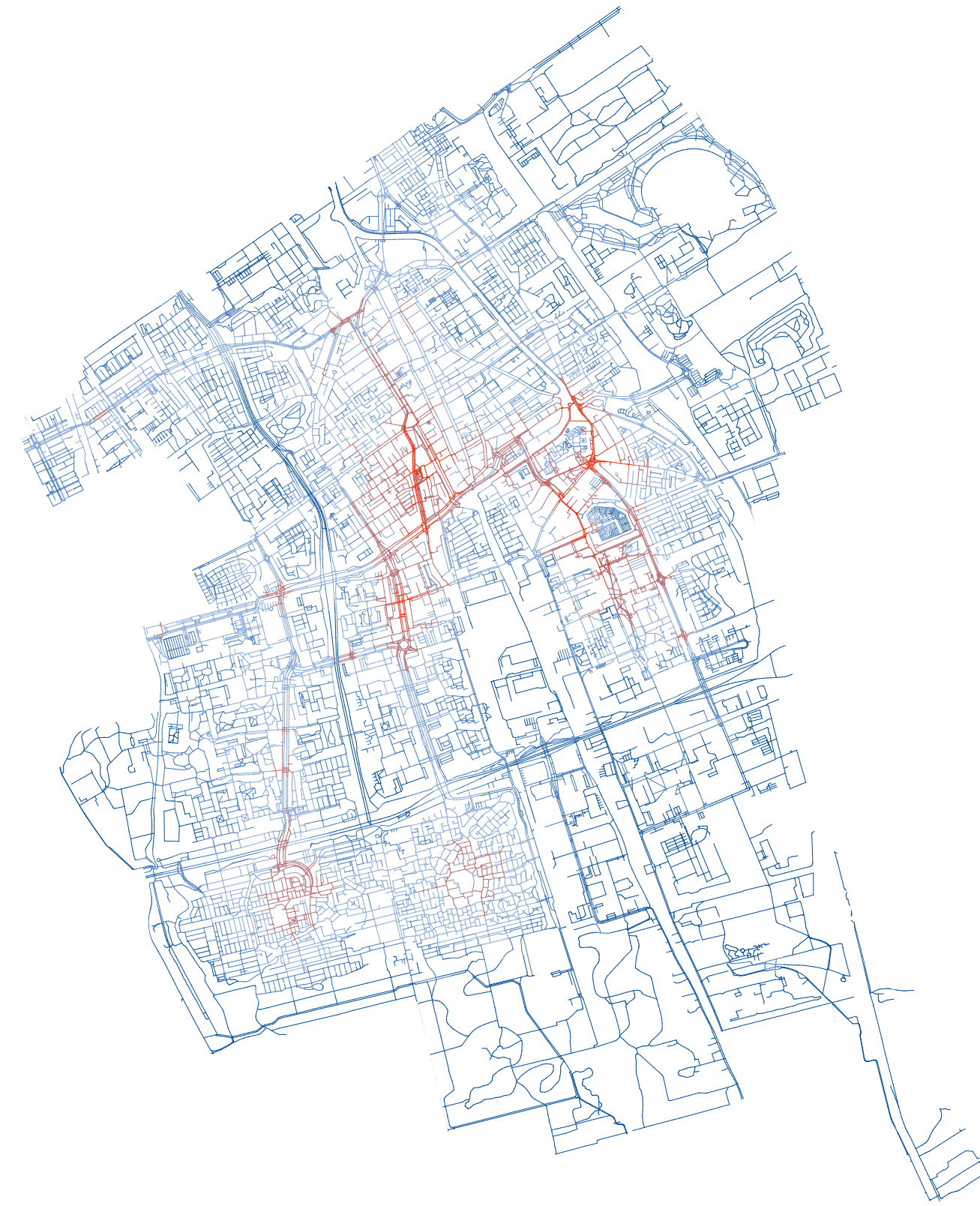


fig. 12: the shifting of tight and loose urban spaces

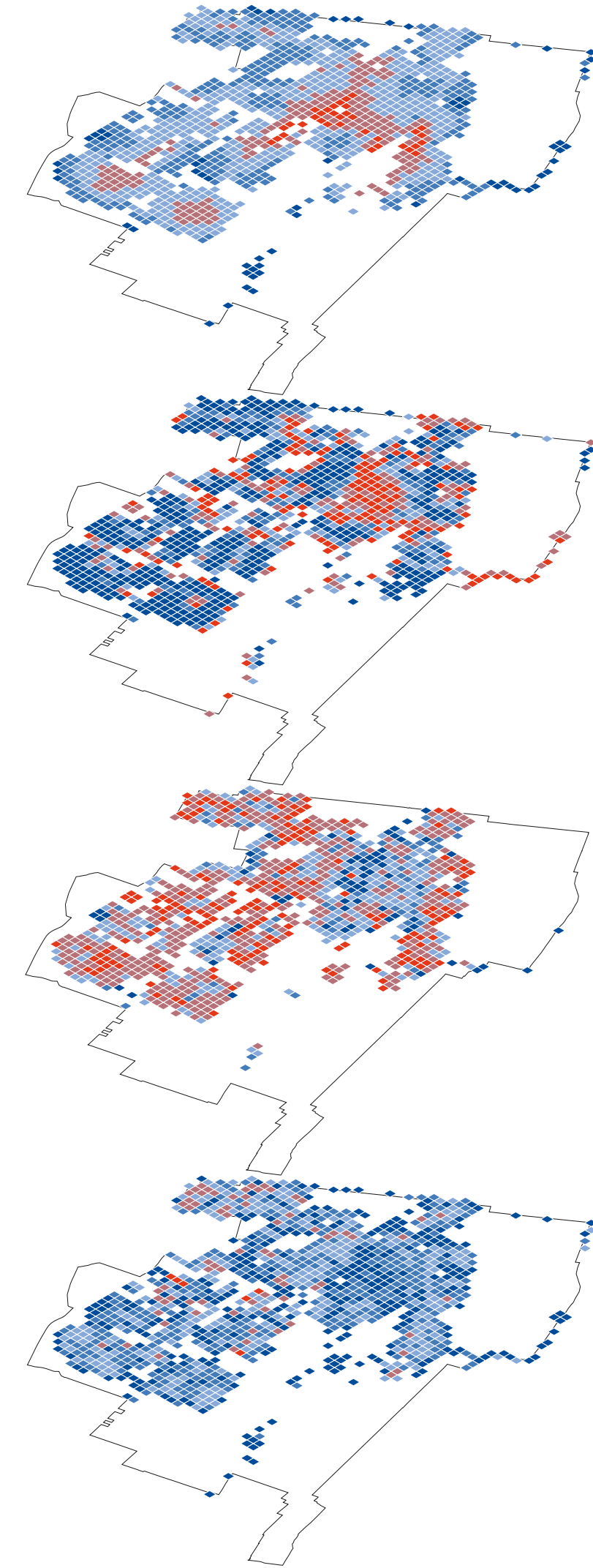


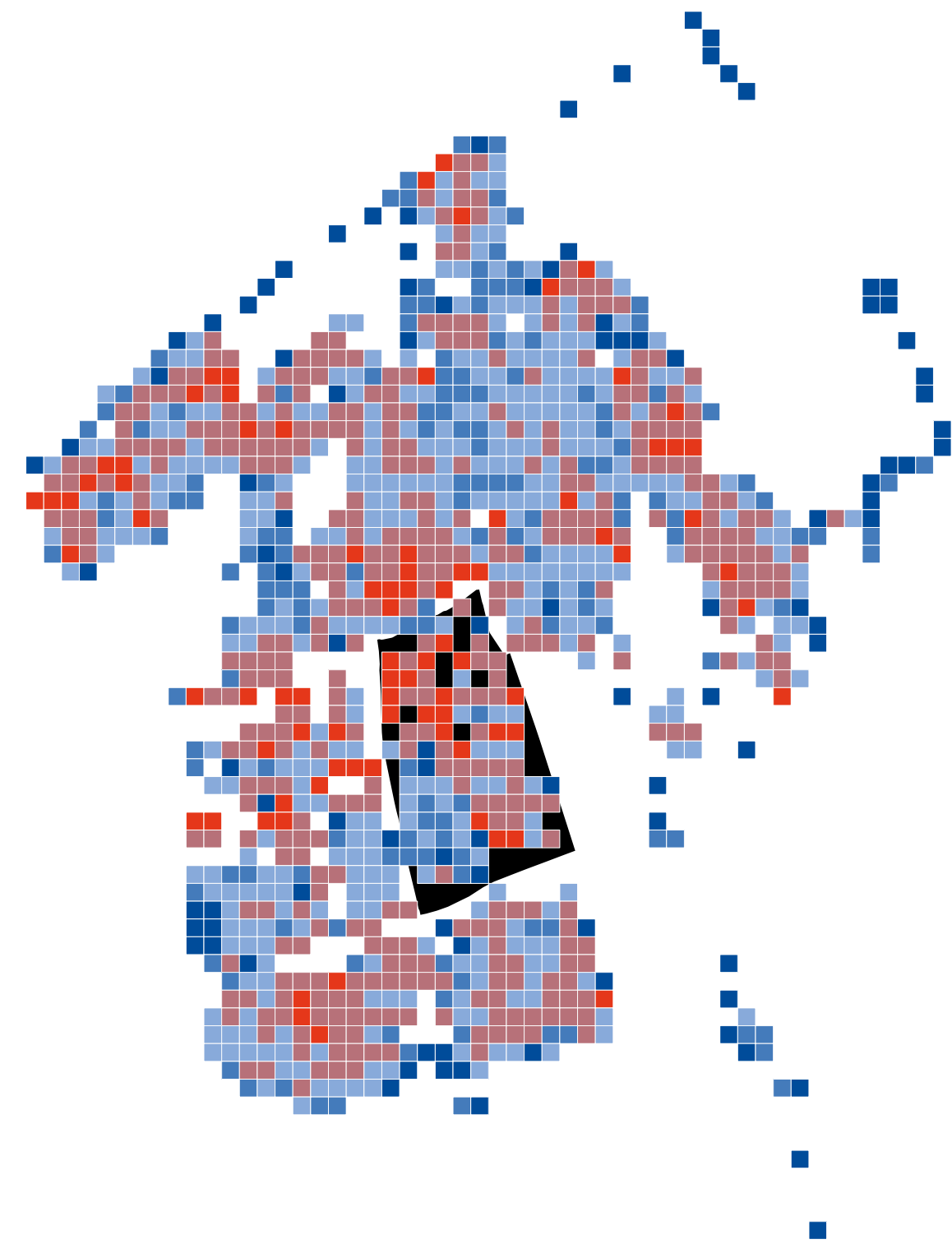






— low integration  
 — high integration





- Voorhof
- 0,02 - 0,18
- 0,18 - 0,33
- 0,33 - 0,49
- 0,49 - 0,64
- 0,64 - 0,79



angular  
integration

0,15

⊗

mixed use index

0,15

⊗

amount of  
m<sup>2</sup> living space  
per person

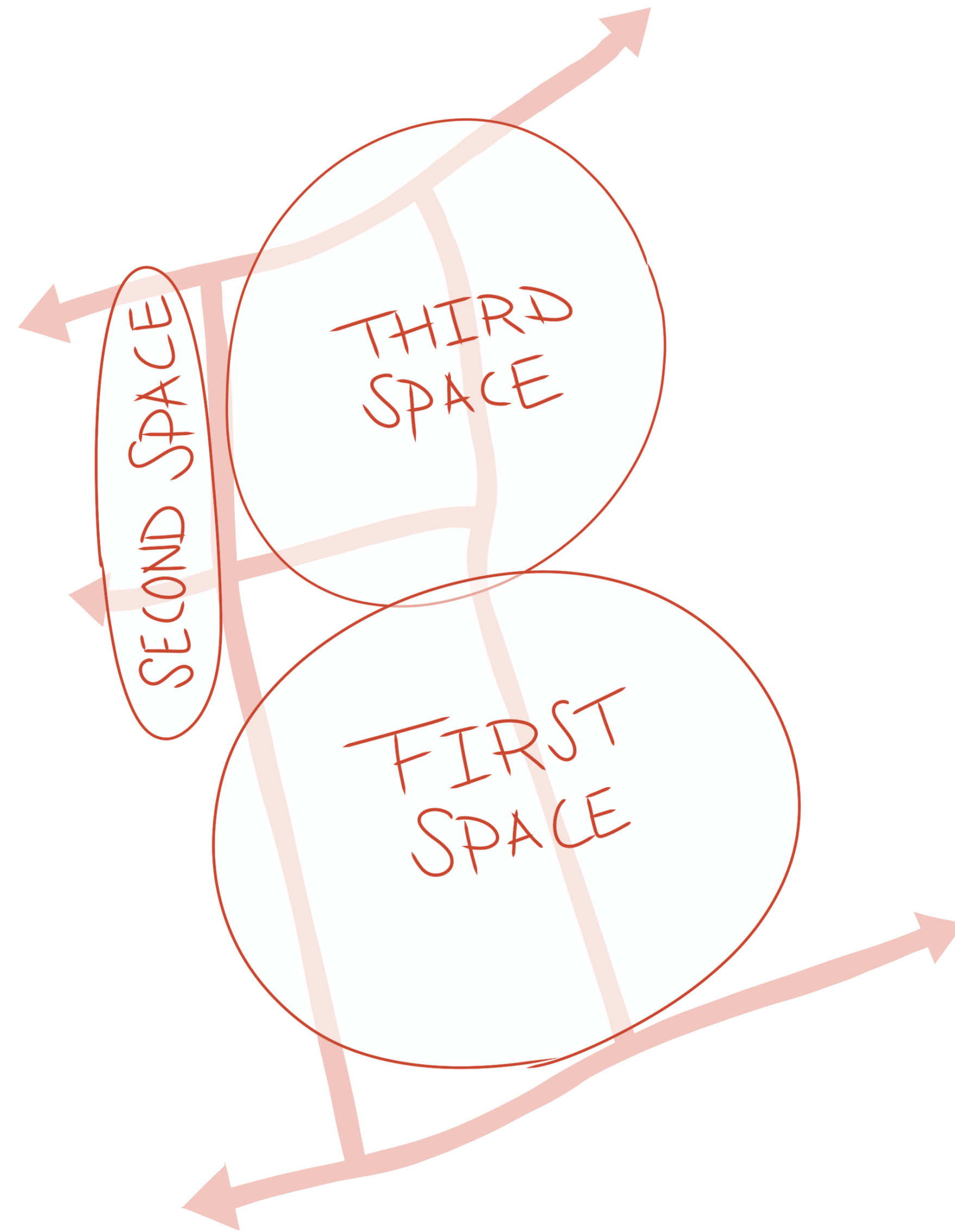
0,4

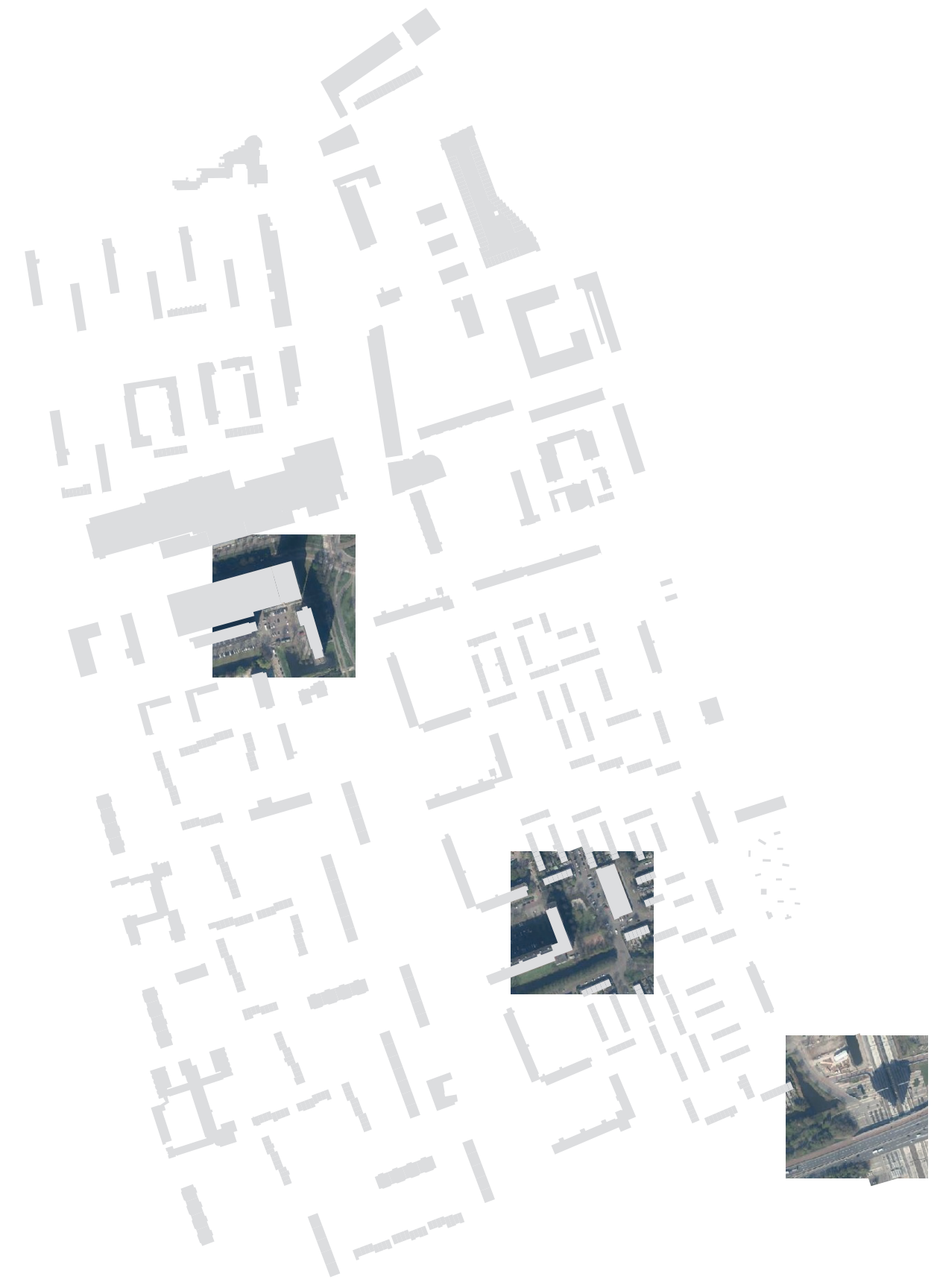
⊗

amount of  
0 - 15 year olds

0,3







You always need to be somewhere where you can buy food, the supermarket or bakery or something like that



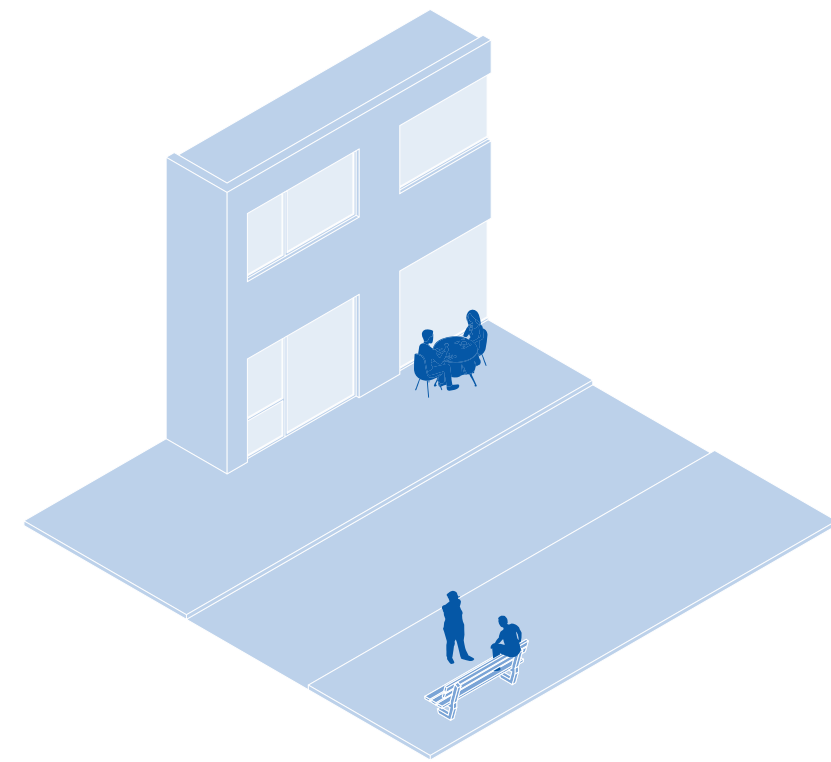
fig. 20: potential places of interaction



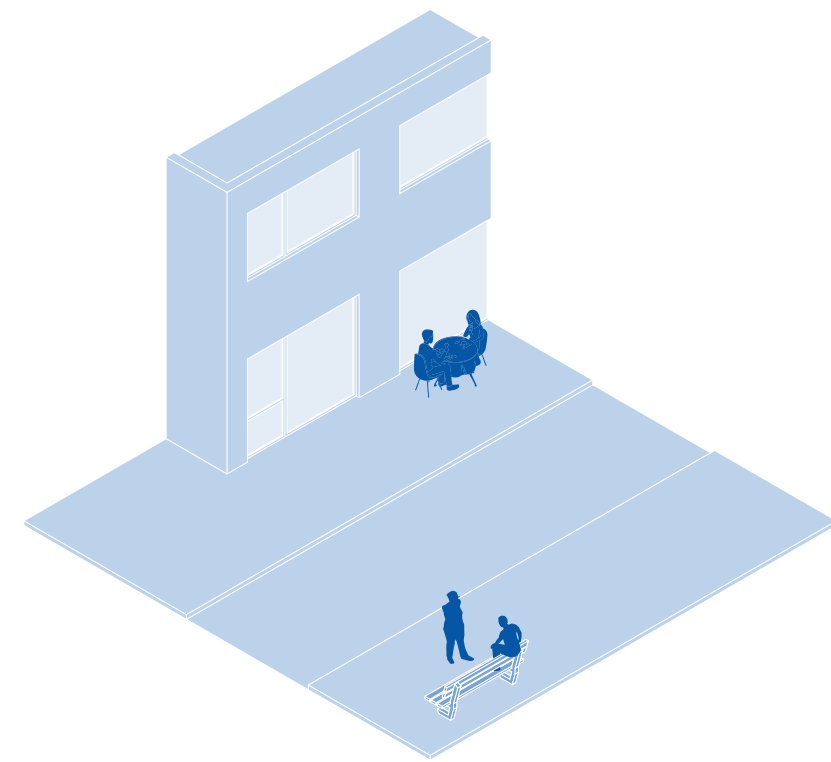
fig. 21: data gathered on preferred and disliked locations



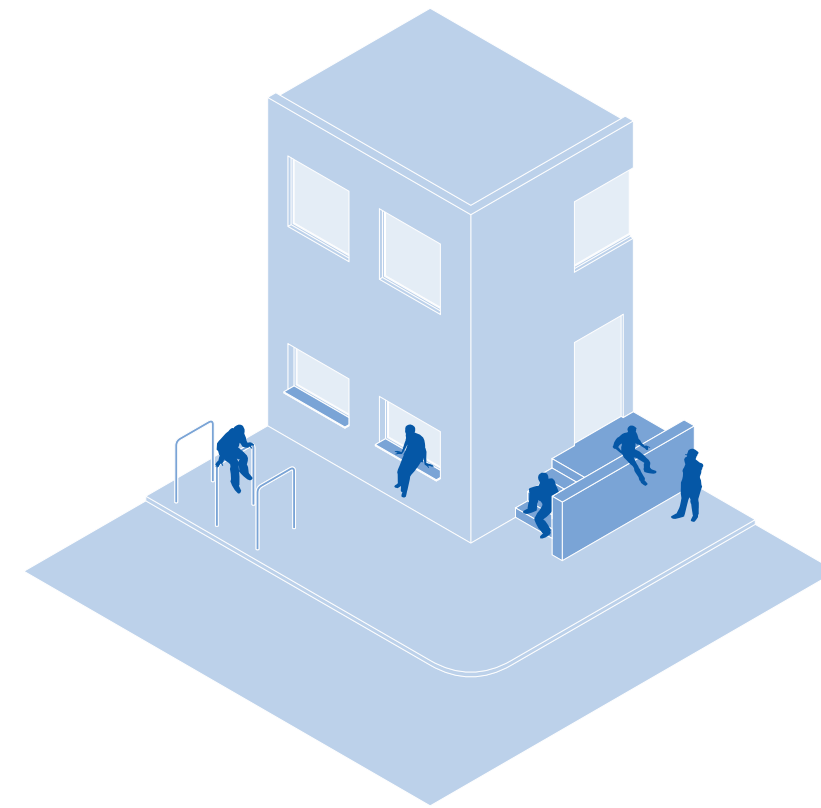
fig. 22: overview of preferred locations



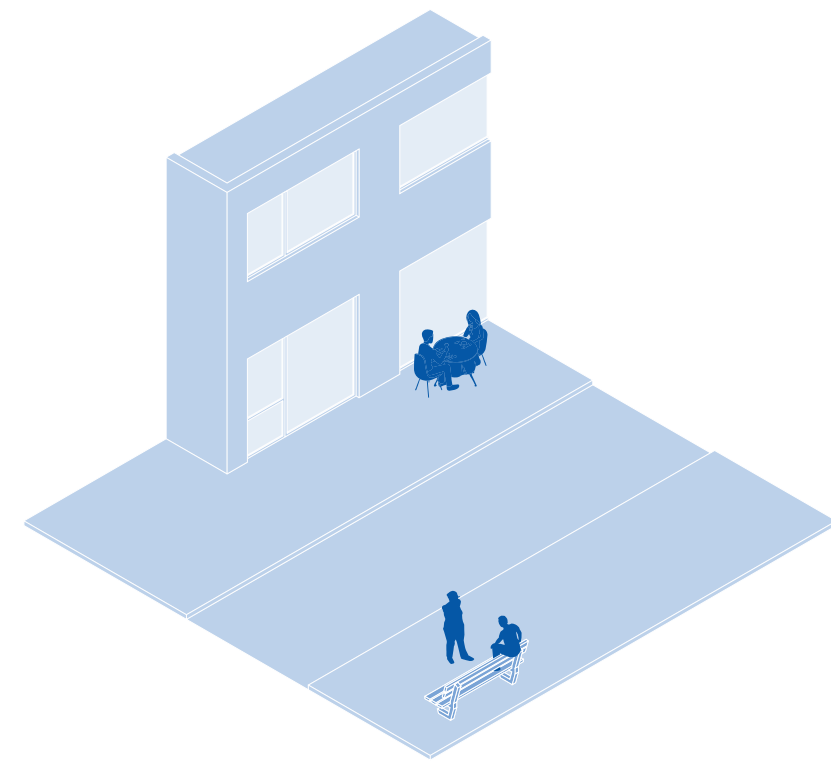
seating



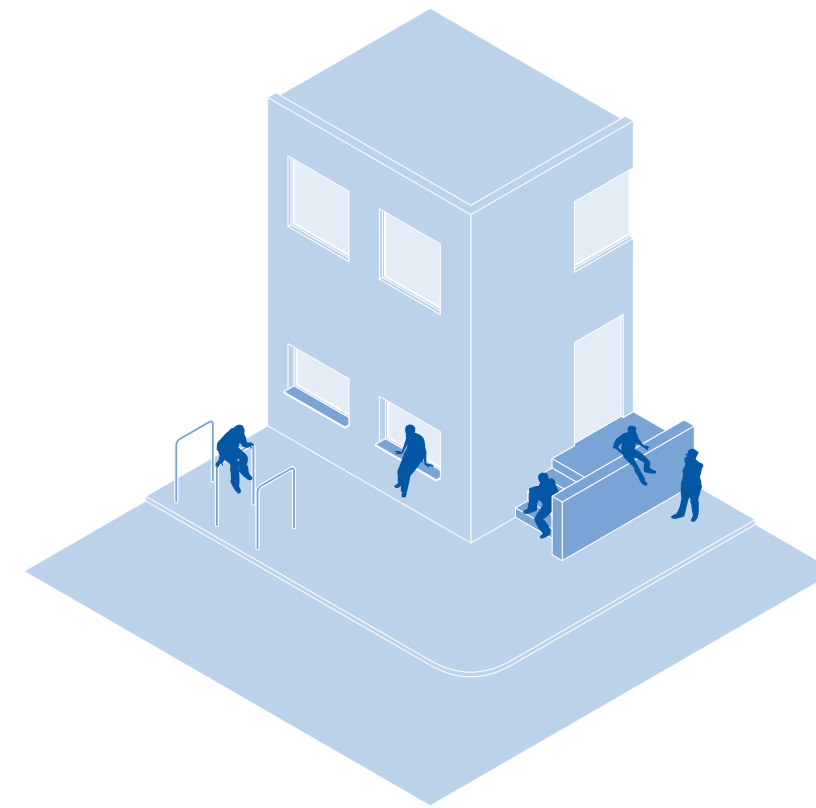
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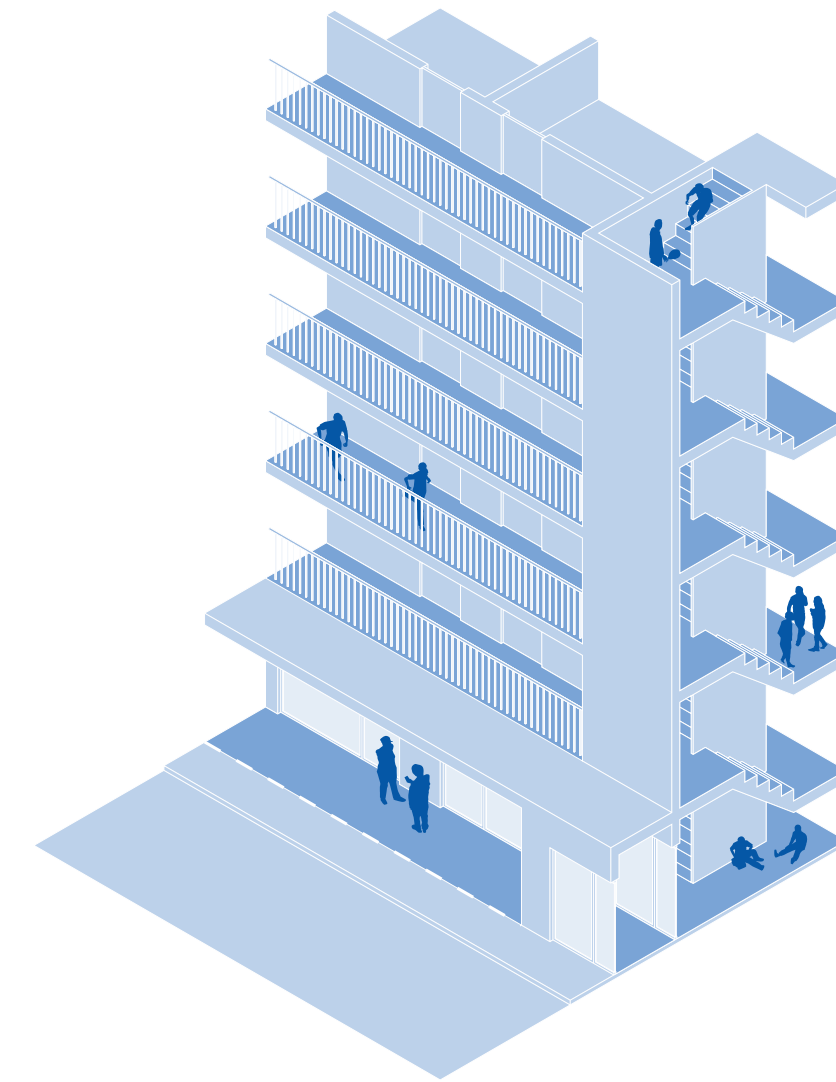
secondary design elements



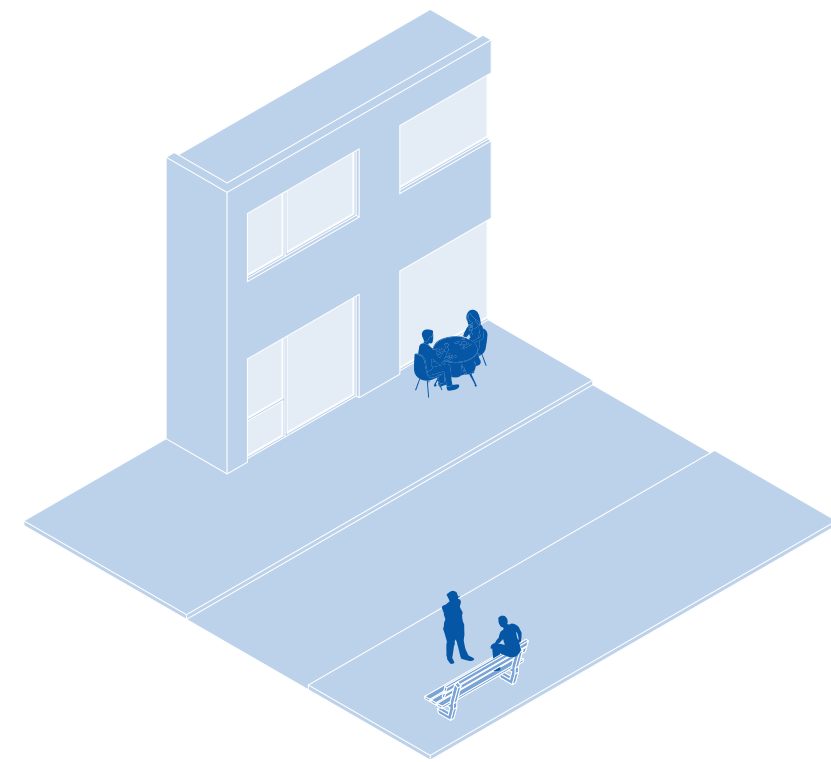
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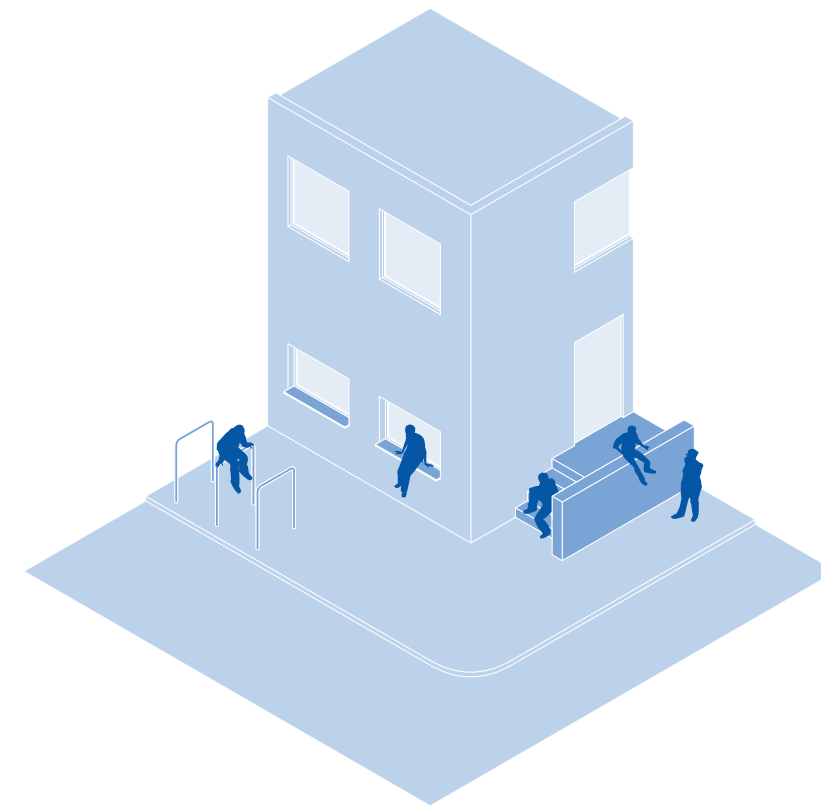
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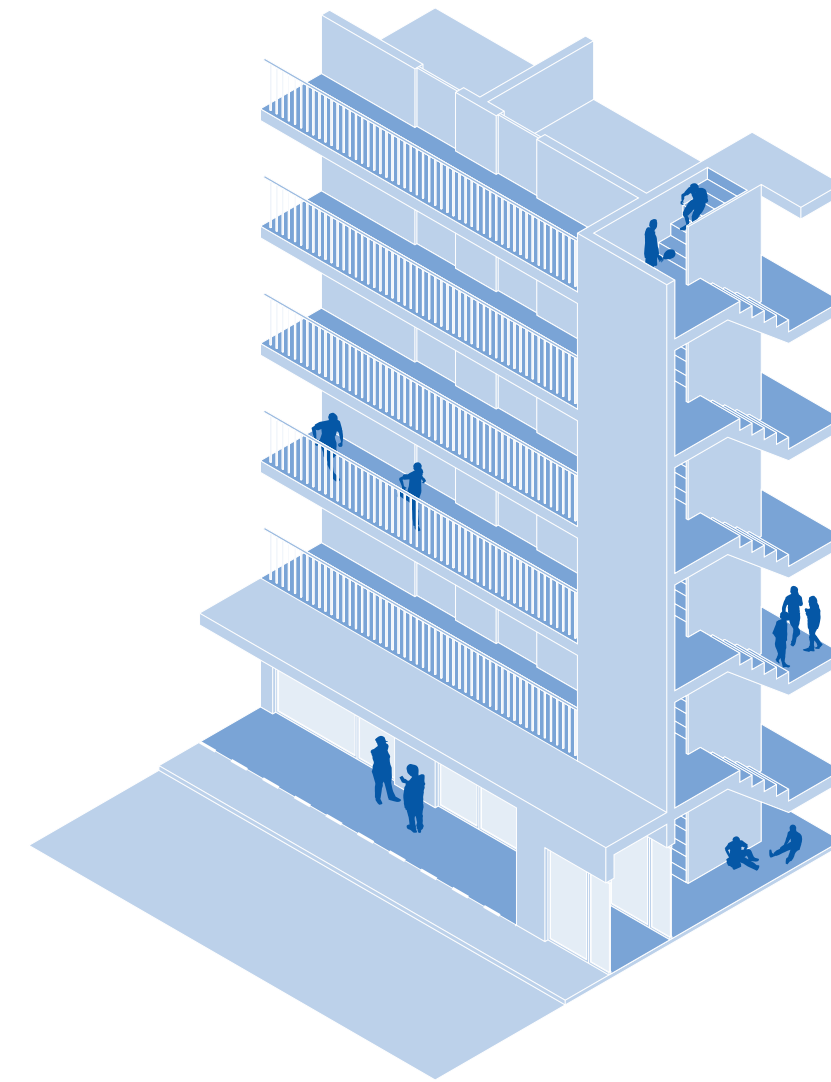
shelter



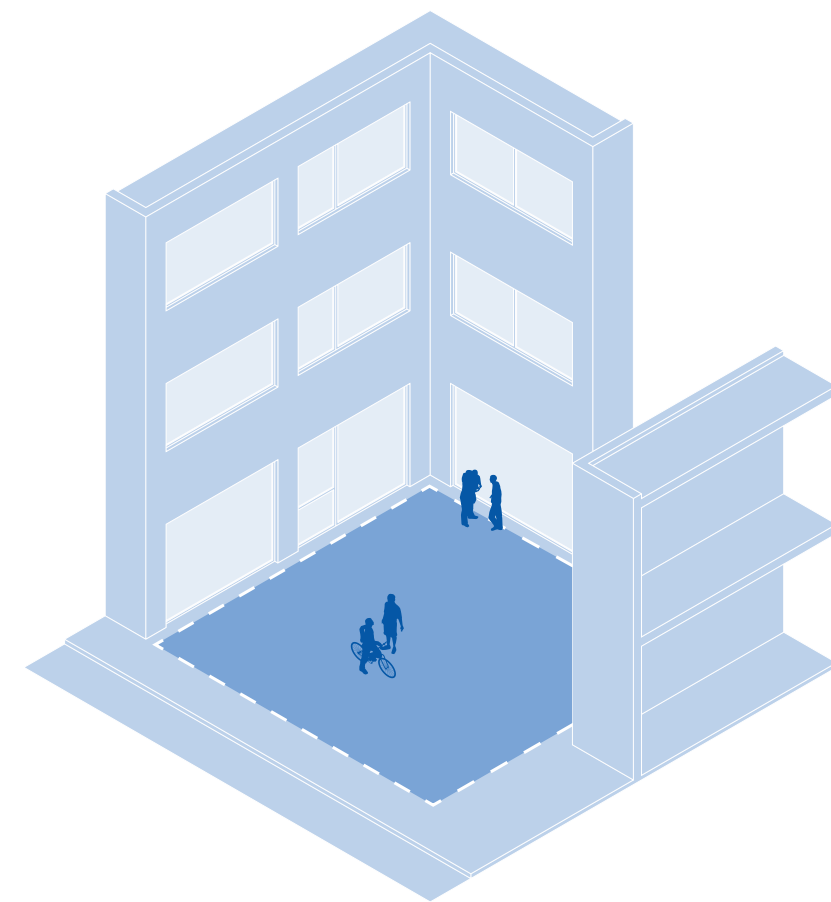
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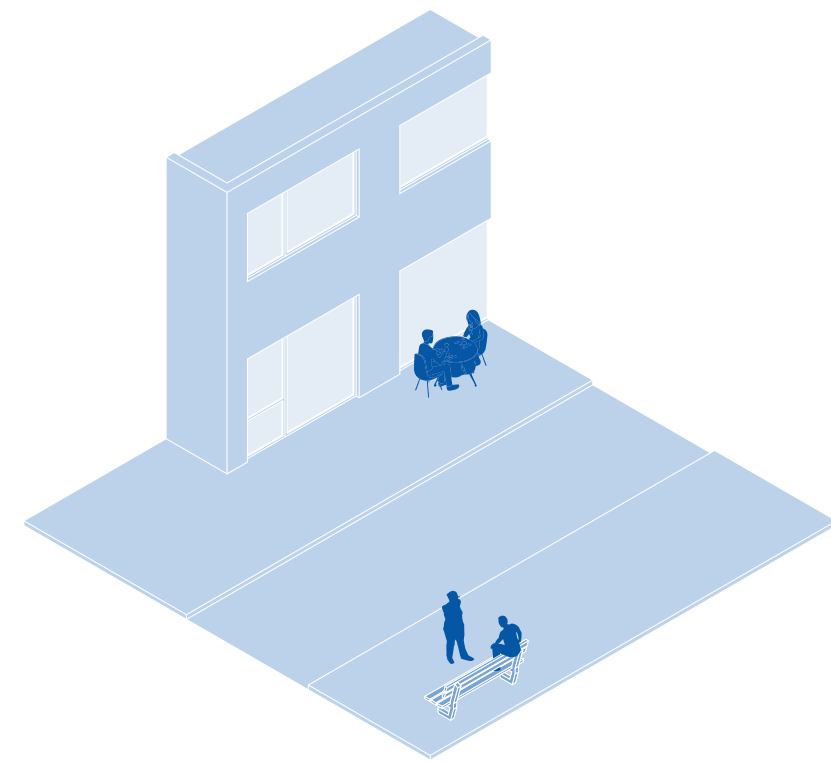
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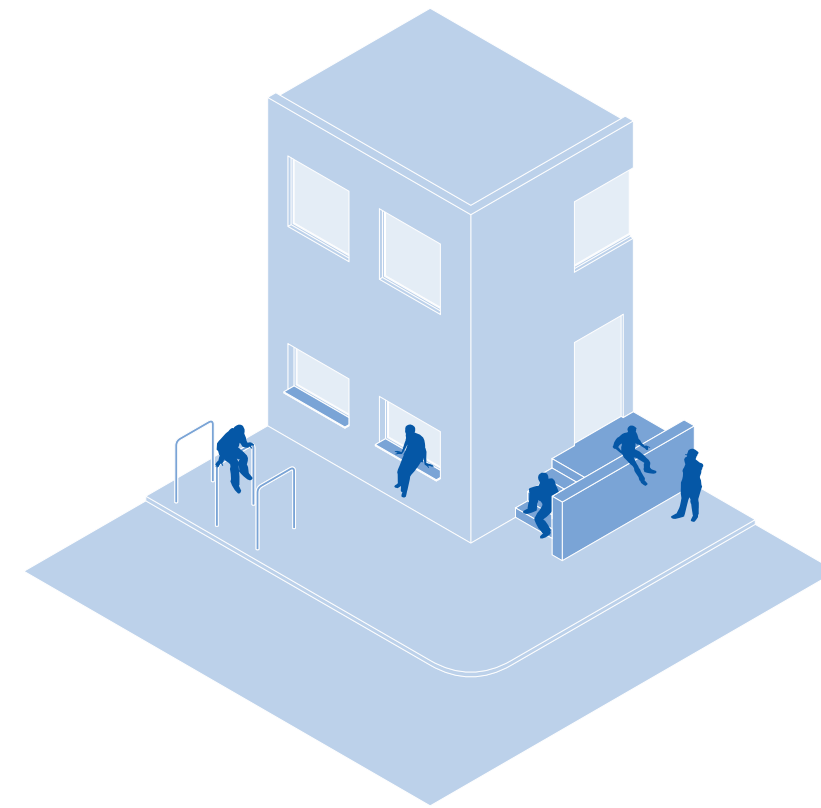
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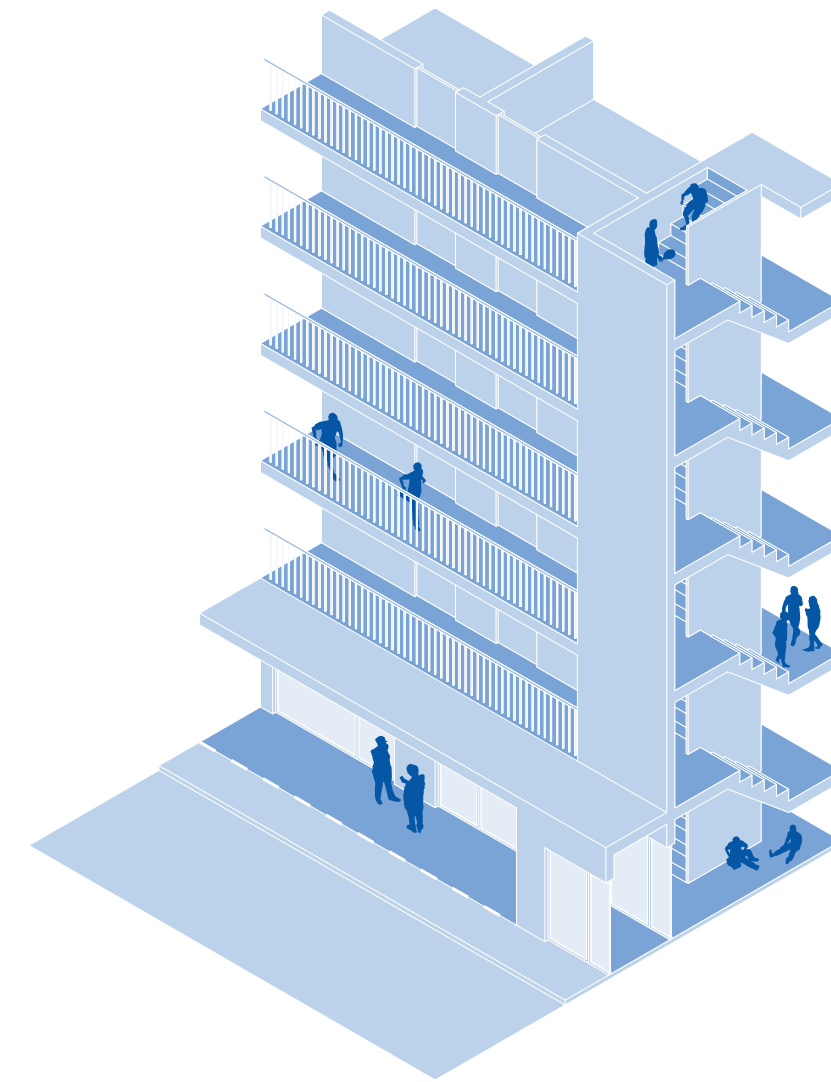
enclosed open space



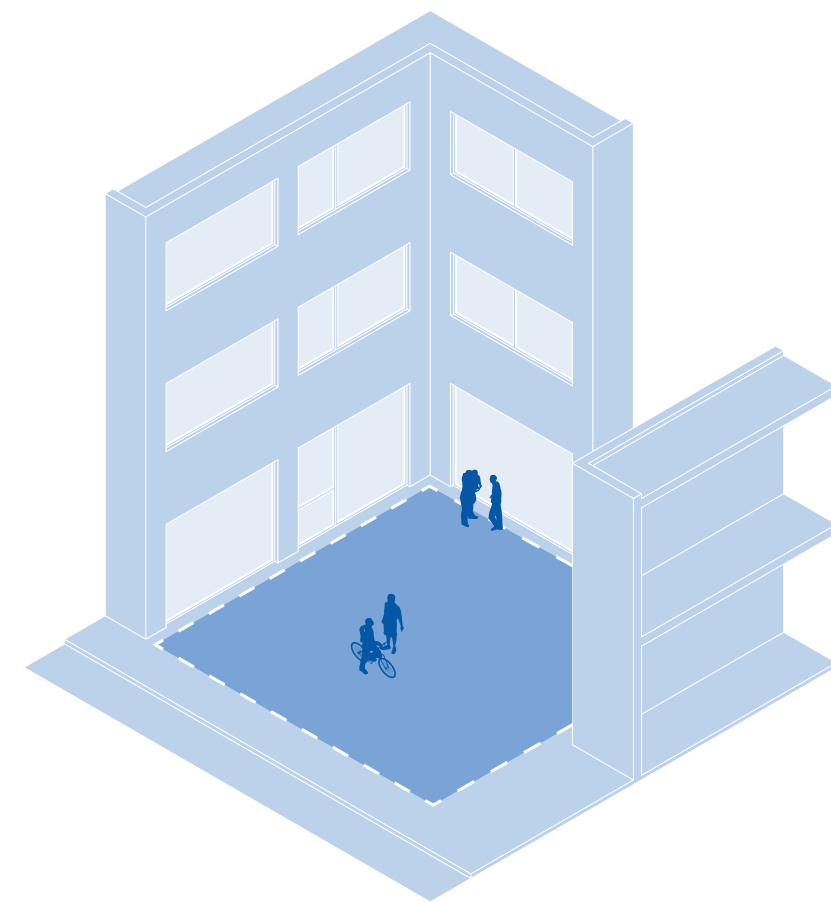
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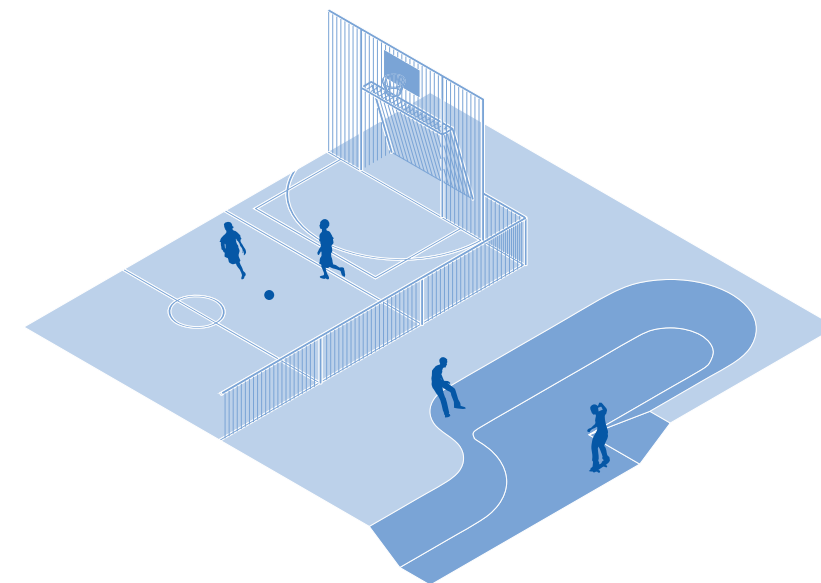
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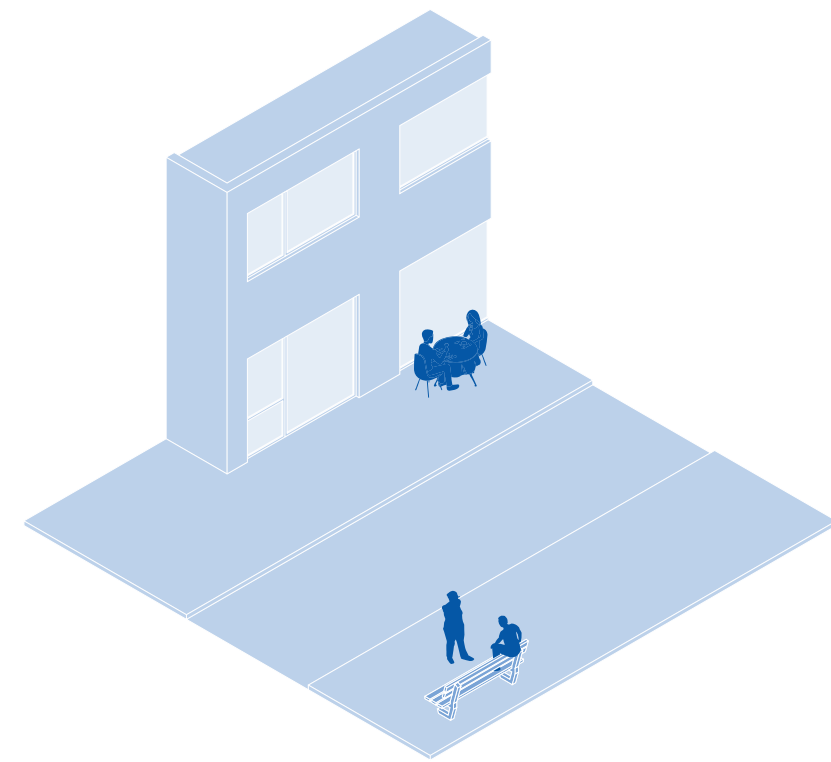
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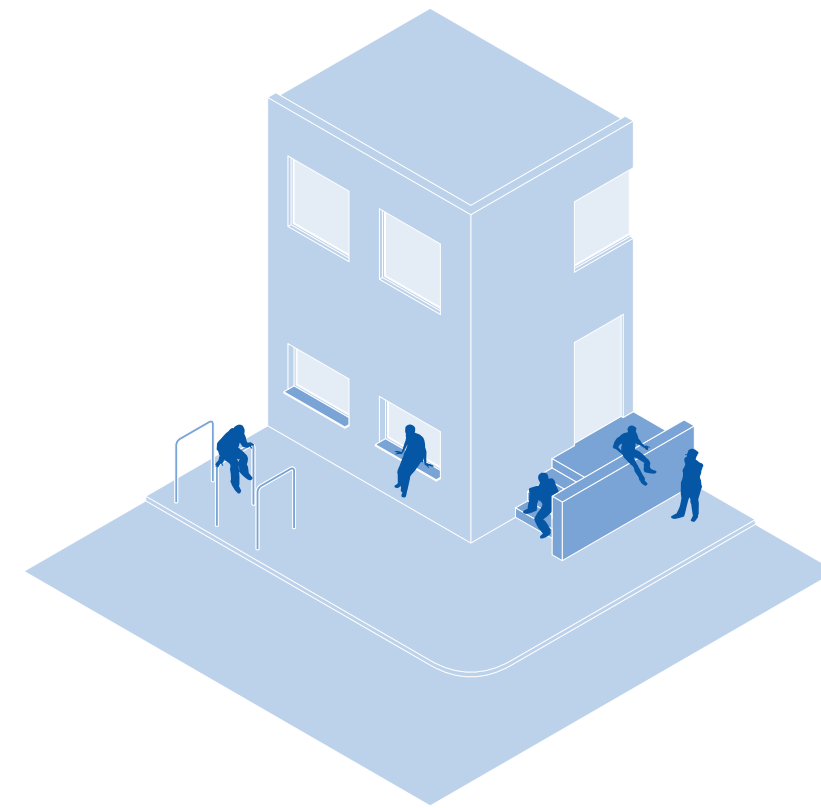
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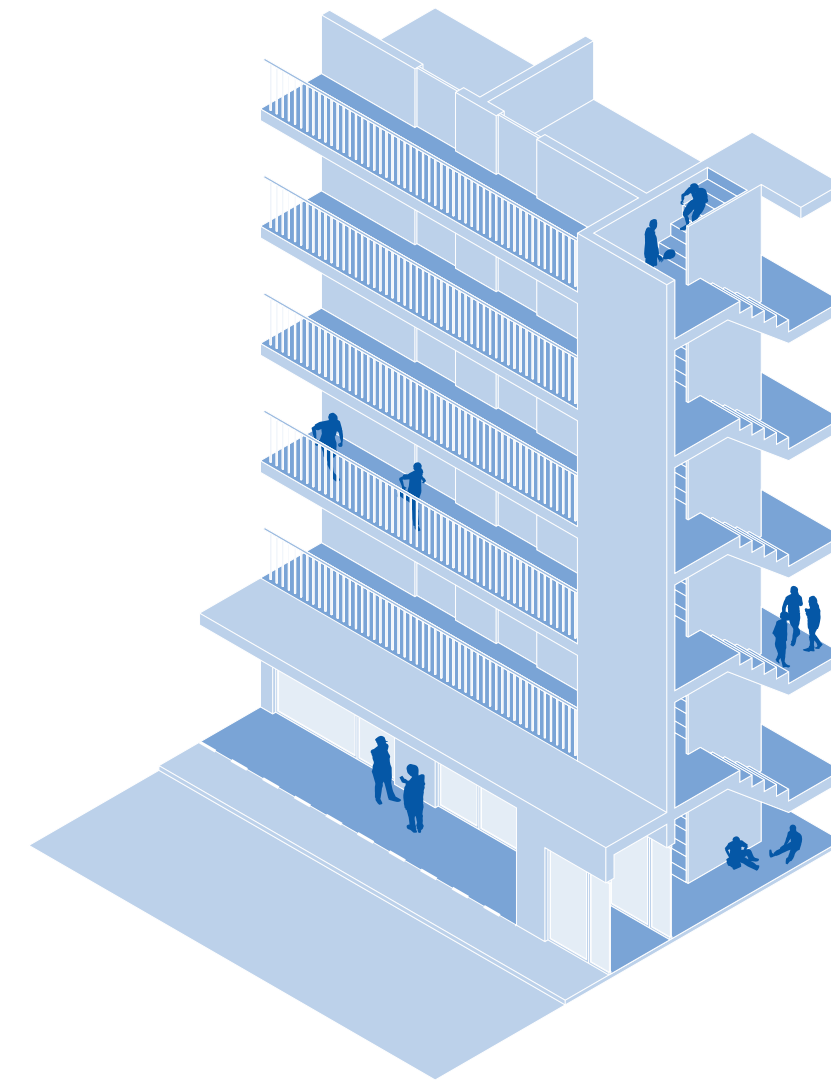
sports



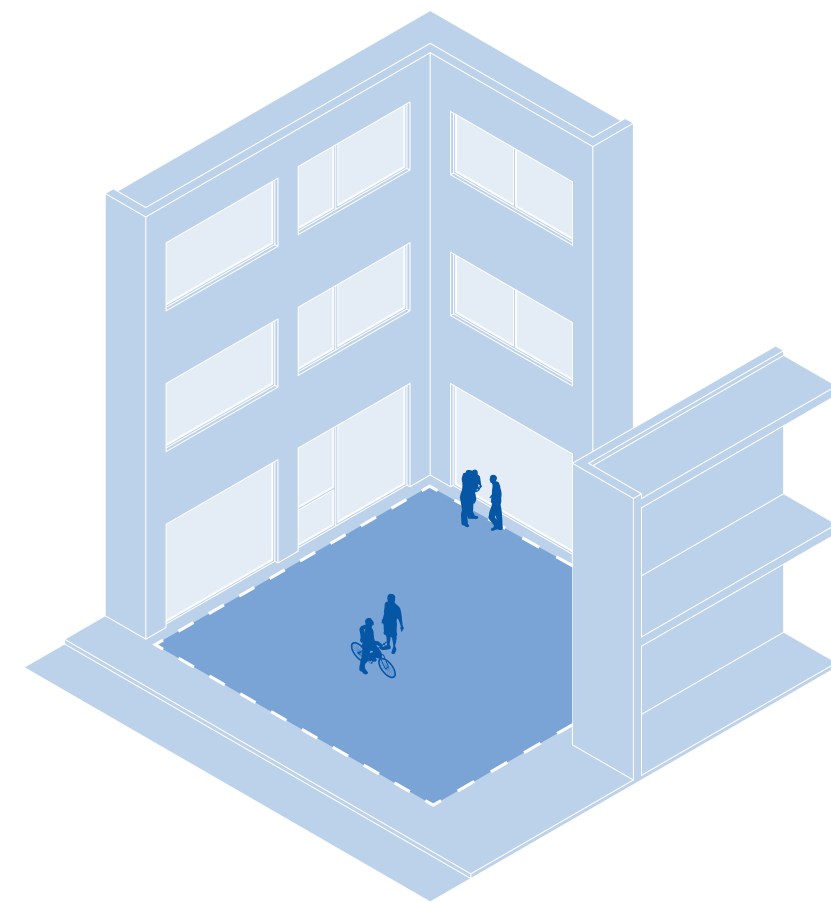
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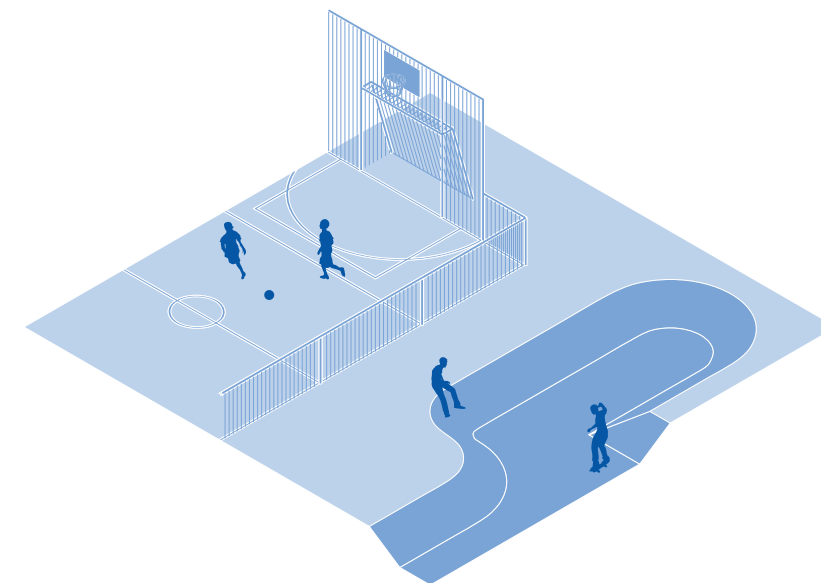
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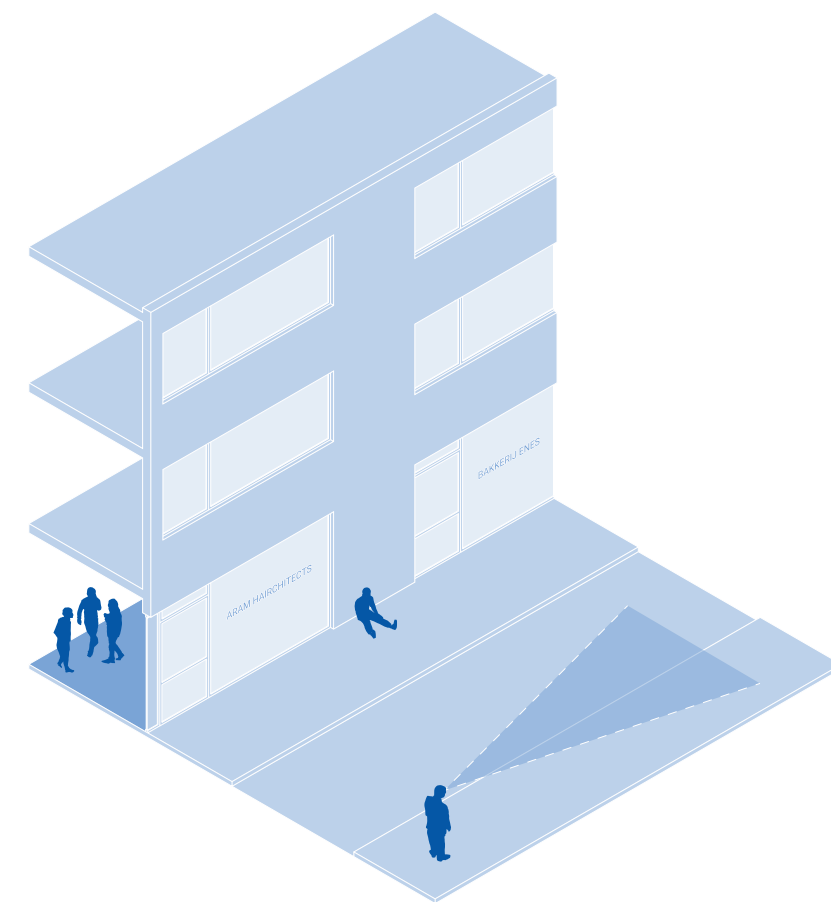
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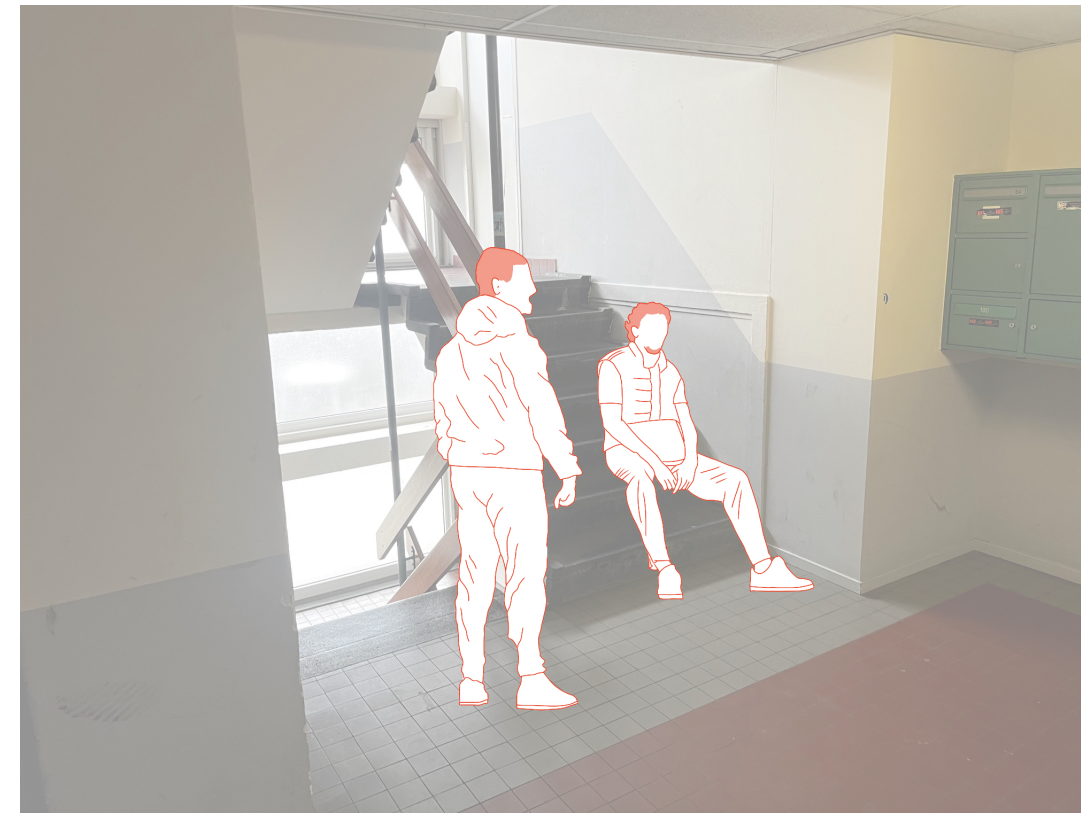
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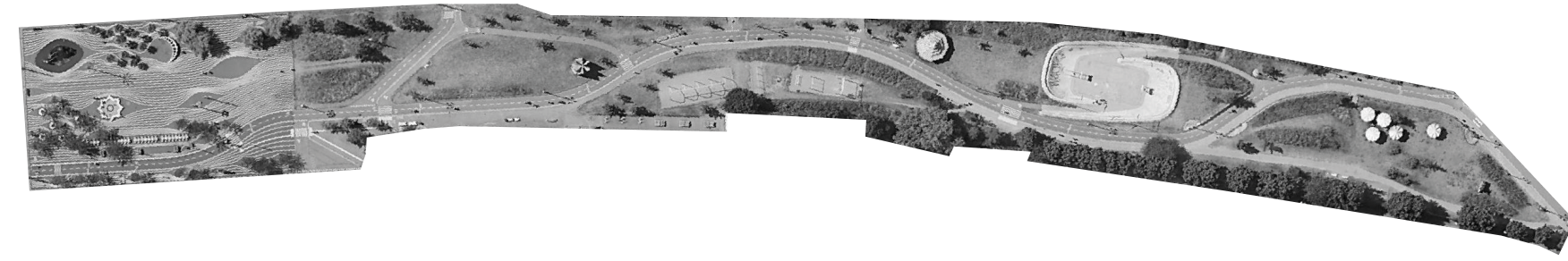


sports

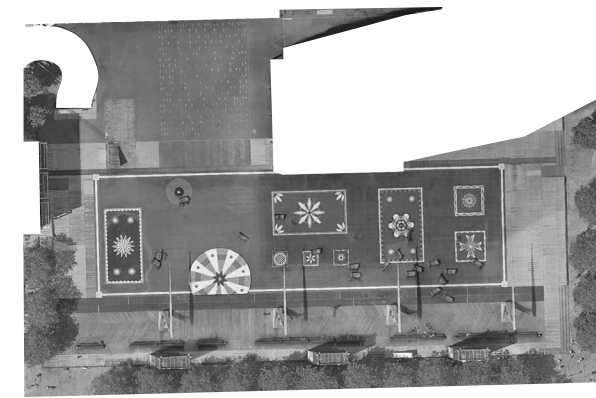


presence of an informal guardian

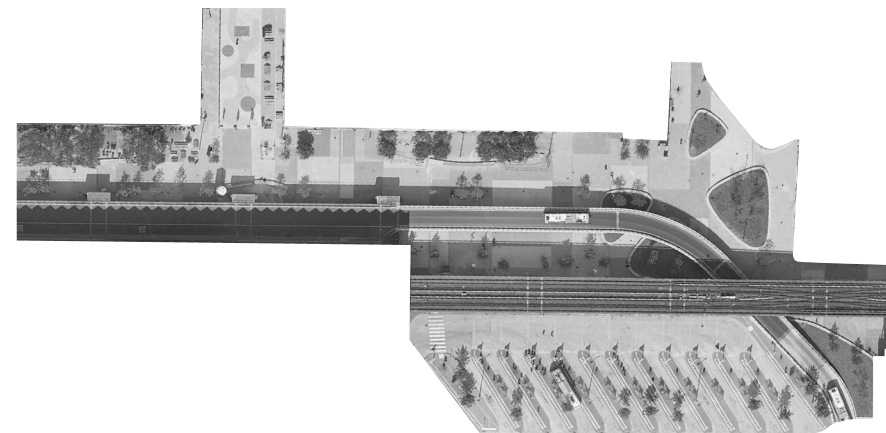




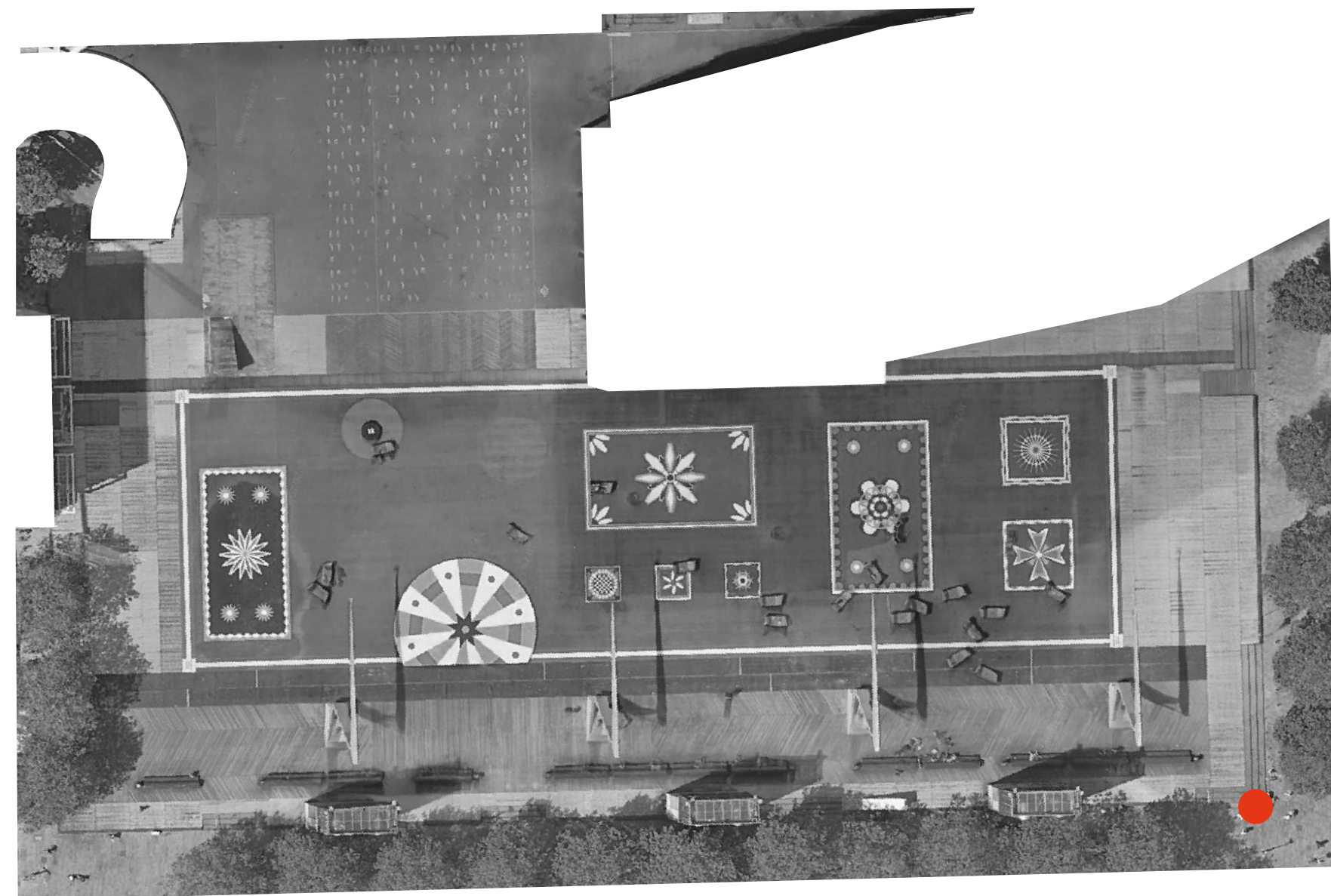
Superkilen, Copenhagen



Schouwburgplein, Rotterdam

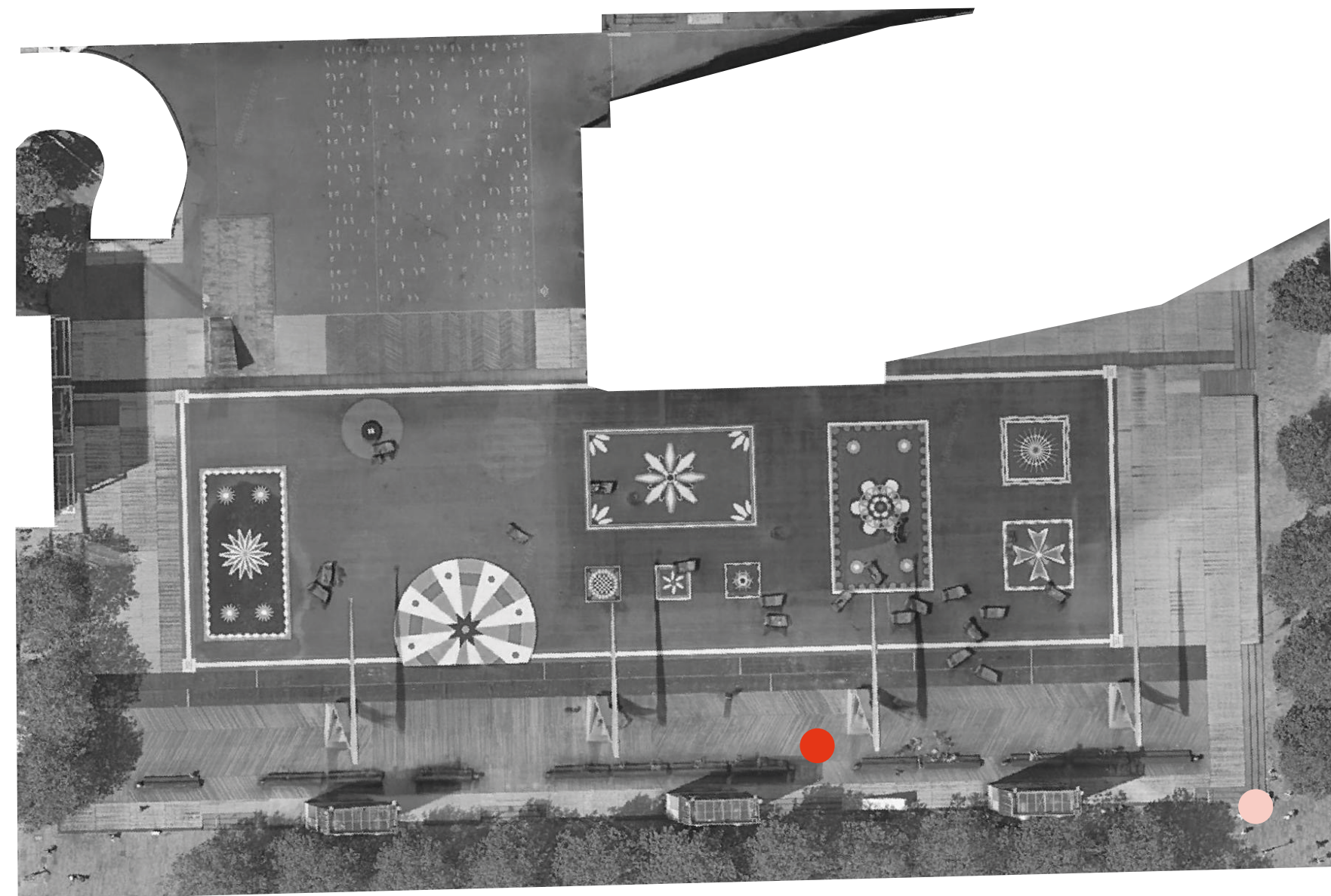


Zuidplein, Rotterdam



secondary design elements

fig. 31: conclusions on youth behaviour as observed at Schouwburgplein, Rotterdam

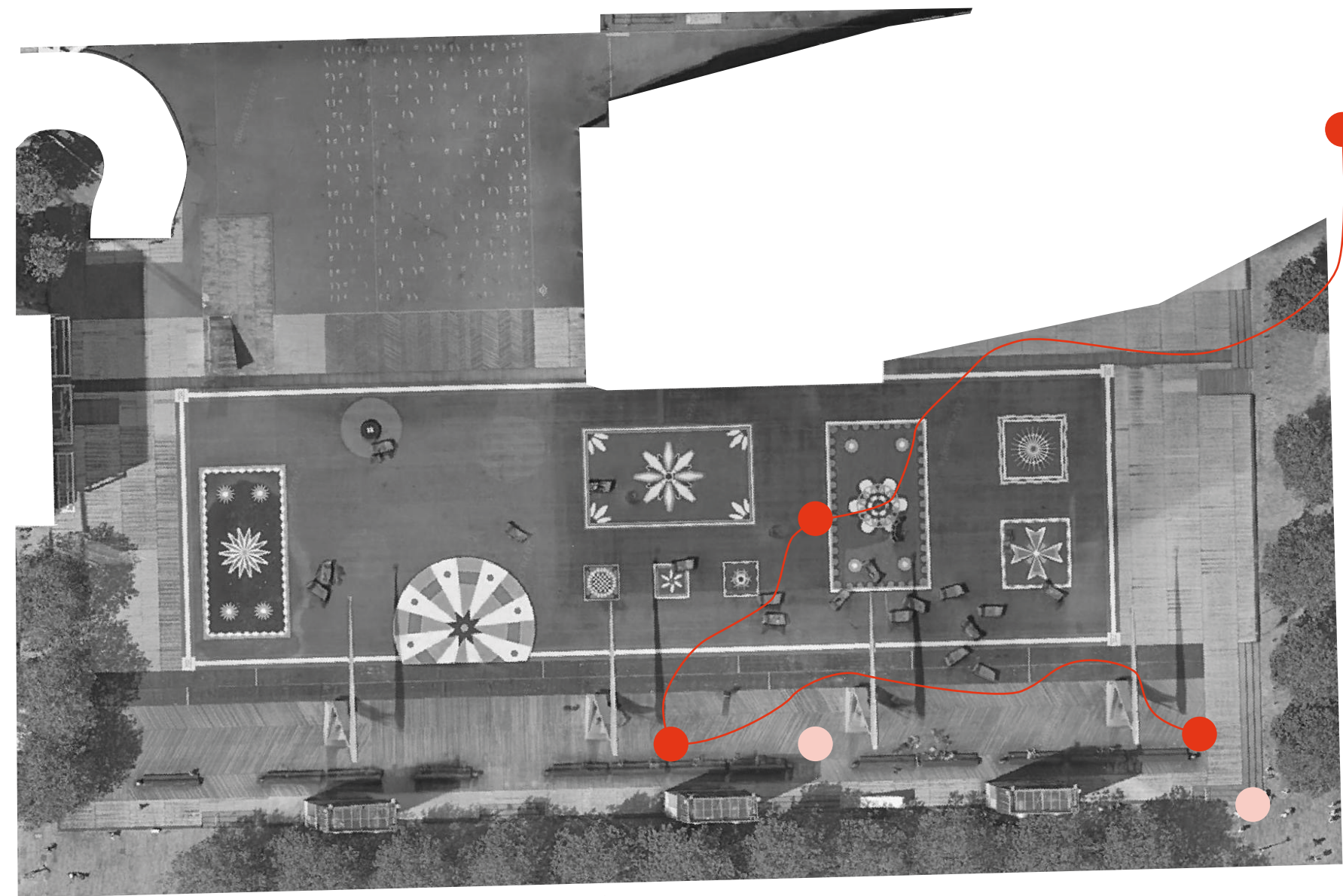


secondary design elements

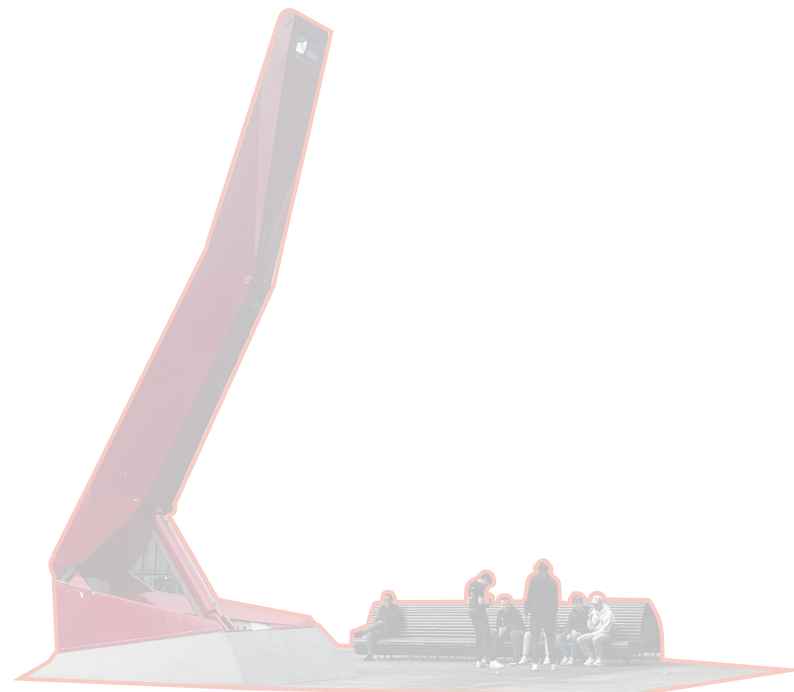


pockets as micro-territories

fig. 32: conclusions on youth behaviour as observed at Schouwburgplein, Rotterdam



secondary design elements

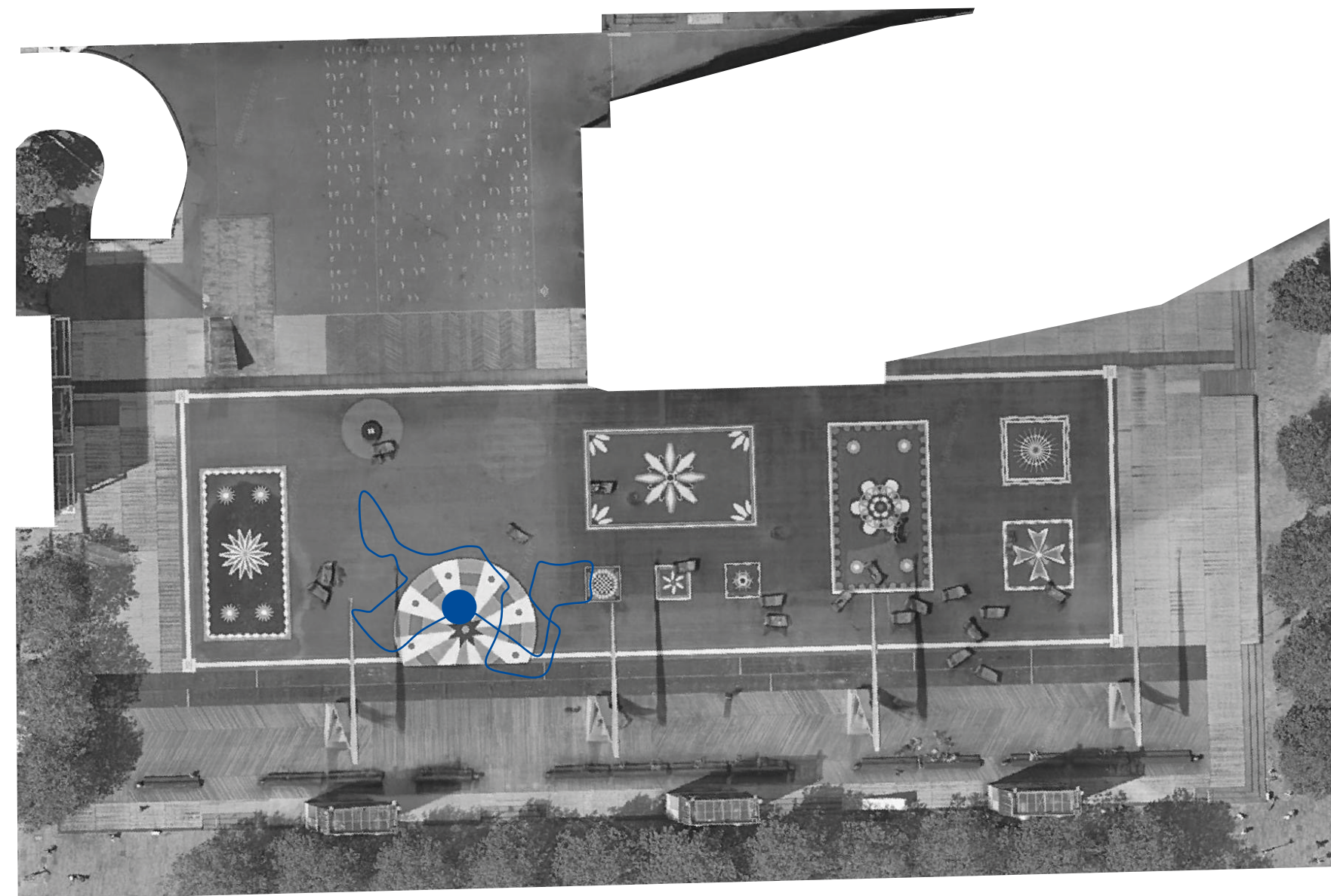


*pockets as micro-territories*



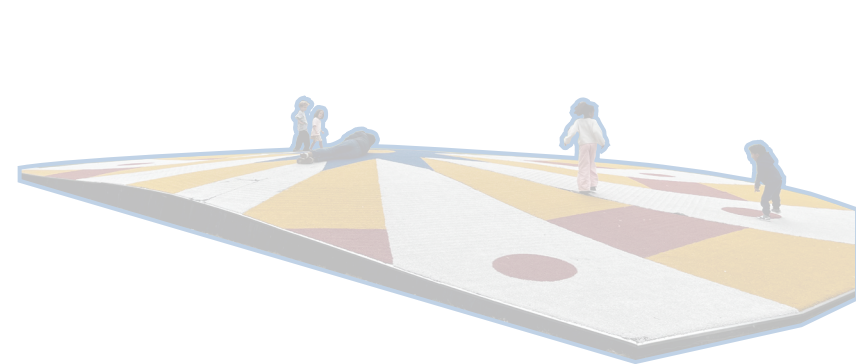
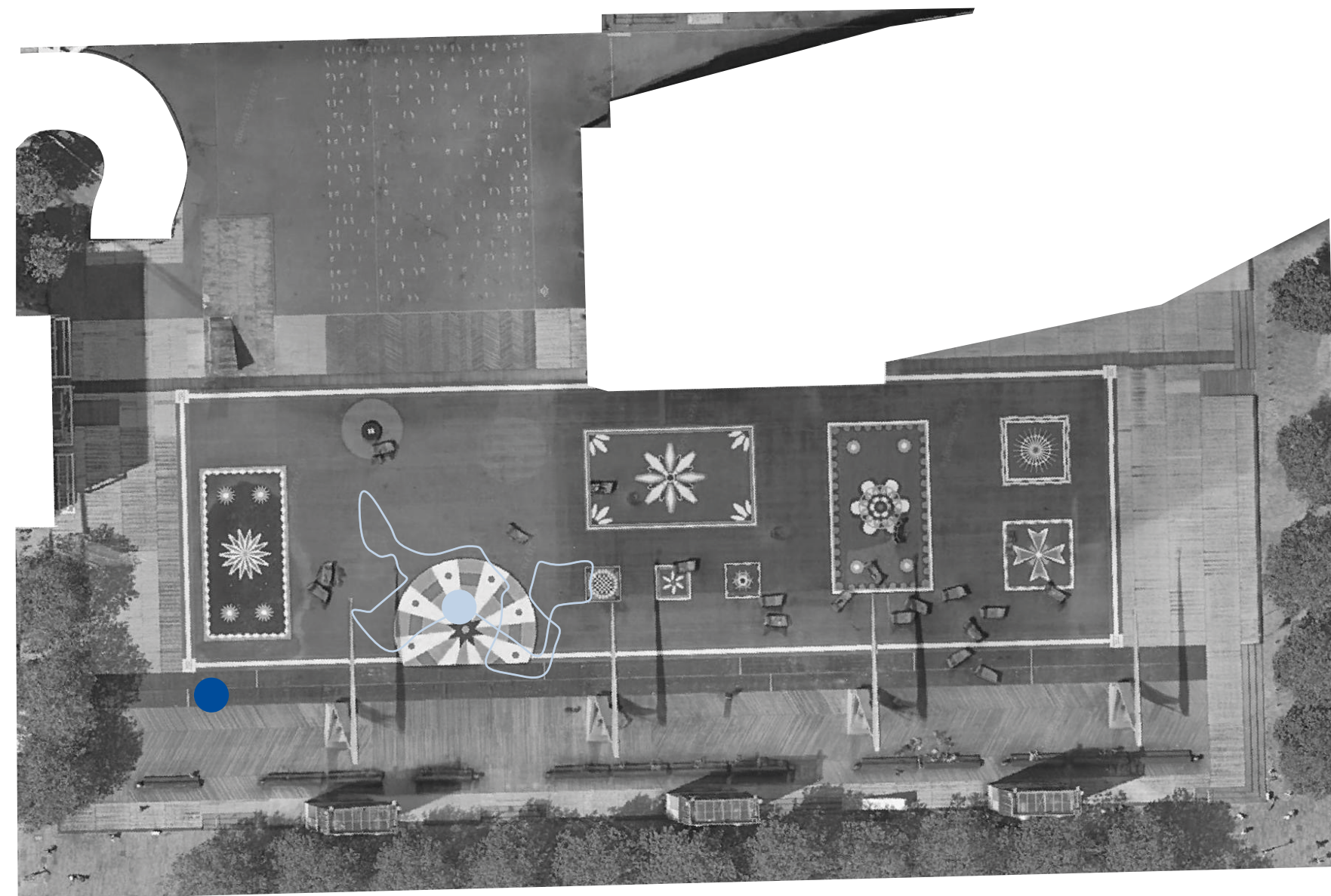
hanging out as a versatile activity

fig. 33: conclusions on youth behaviour as observed at Schouwburgplein, Rotterdam



versatile boundaries

fig. 34: conclusions on other than youth behaviour as observed at Schouwburgplein, Rotterdam

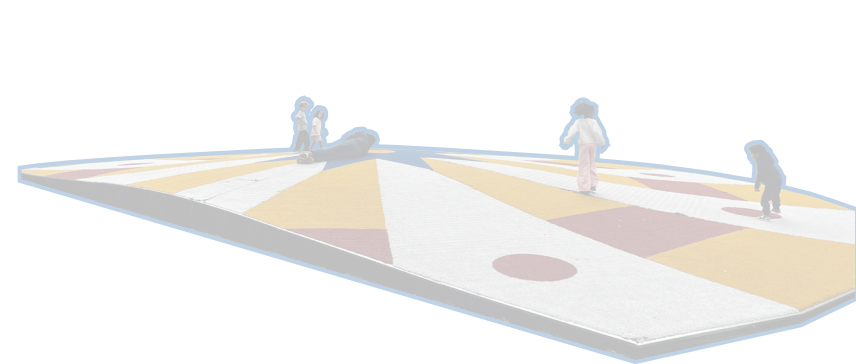
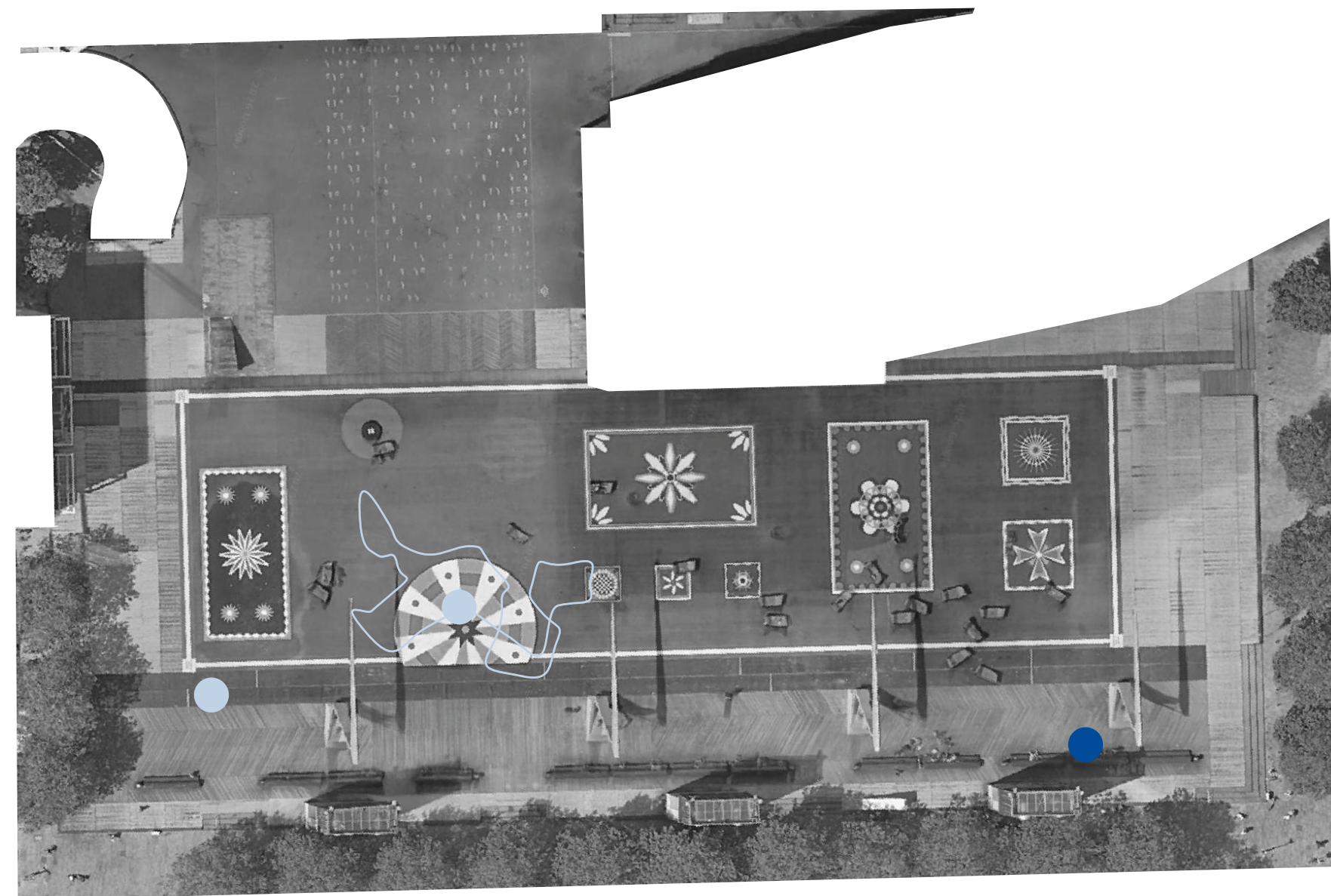


versatile boundaries



micro-territories along main routes

fig. 35: conclusions on other than youth behaviour as observed at Schouwburgplein, Rotterdam



versatile boundaries



micro-territories along main routes



benches as a place of interaction

fig. 36: conclusions on other than youth behaviour as observed at Schouwburgplein, Rotterdam

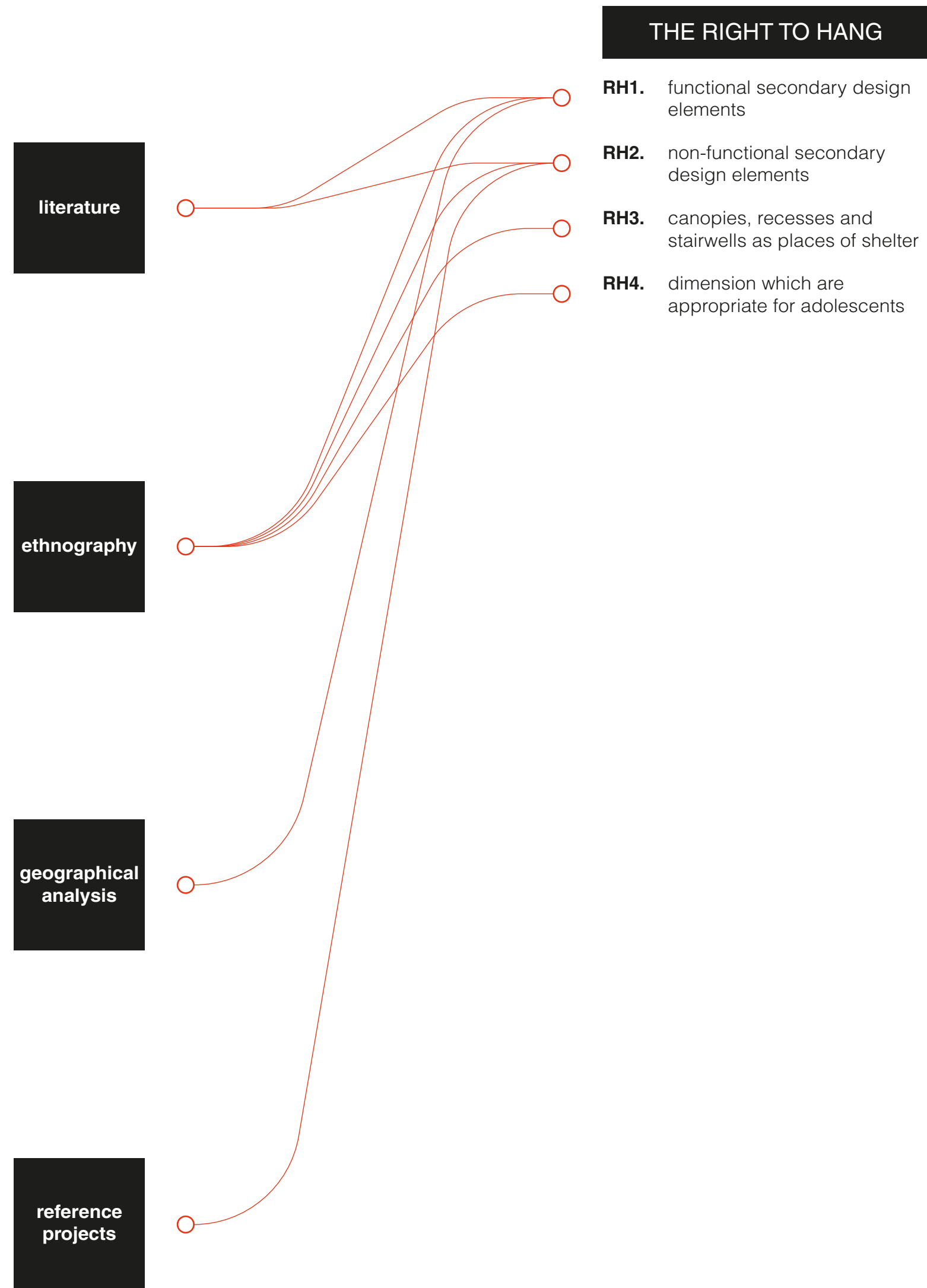


fig. 37: strategic action: the right to hang

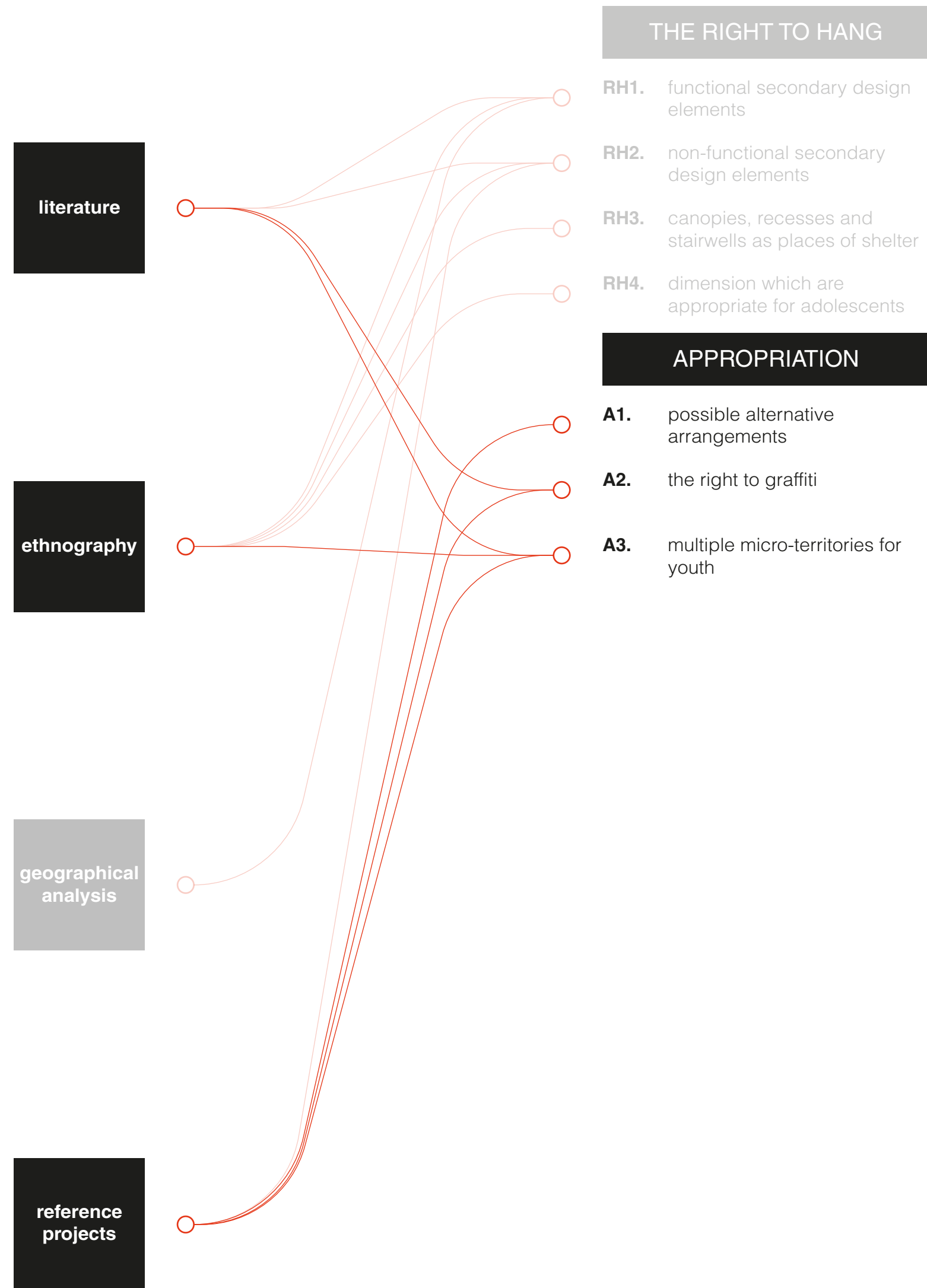


fig. 38: strategic action: appropriation

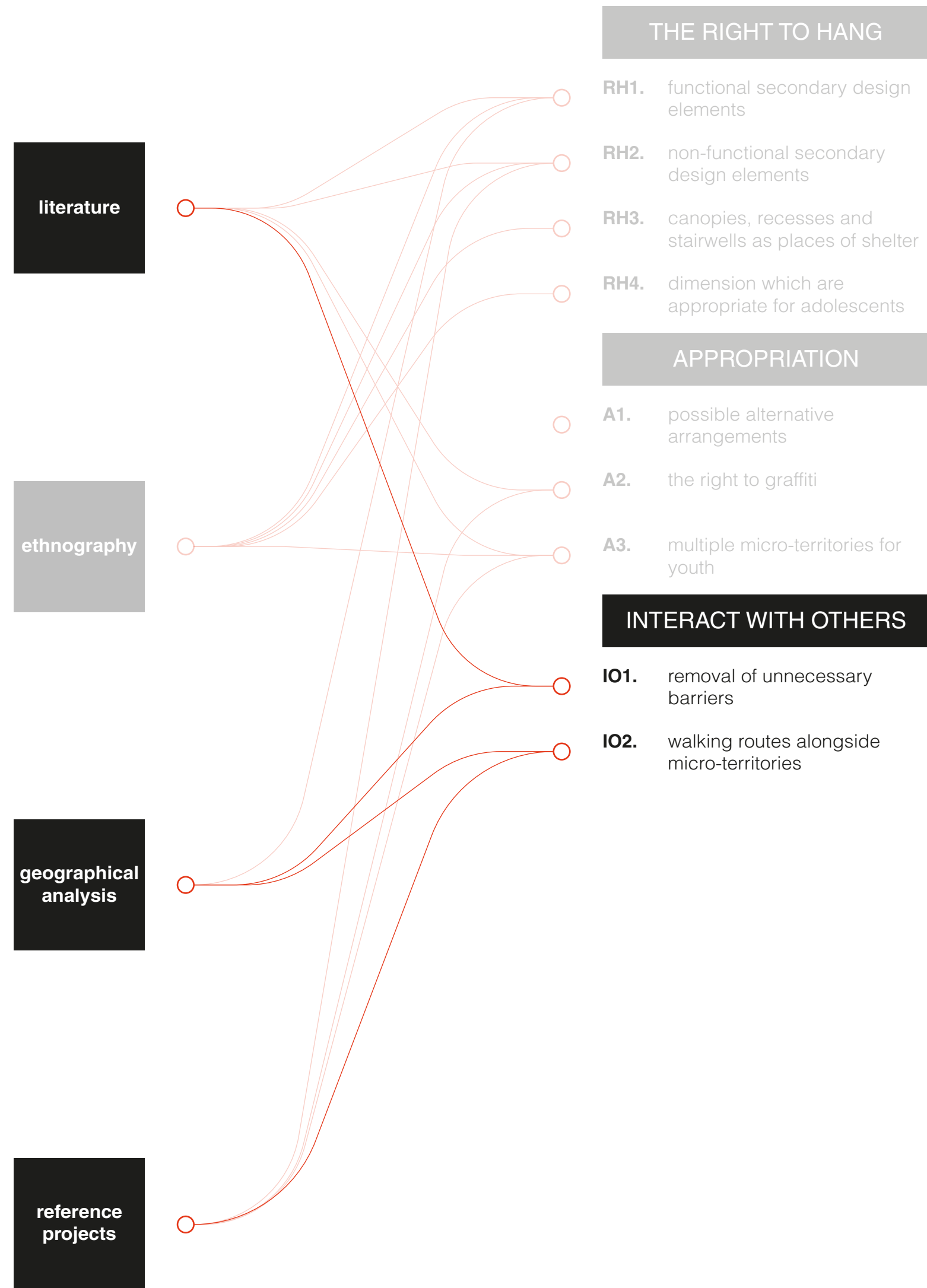


fig. 39: strategic action: interact with others

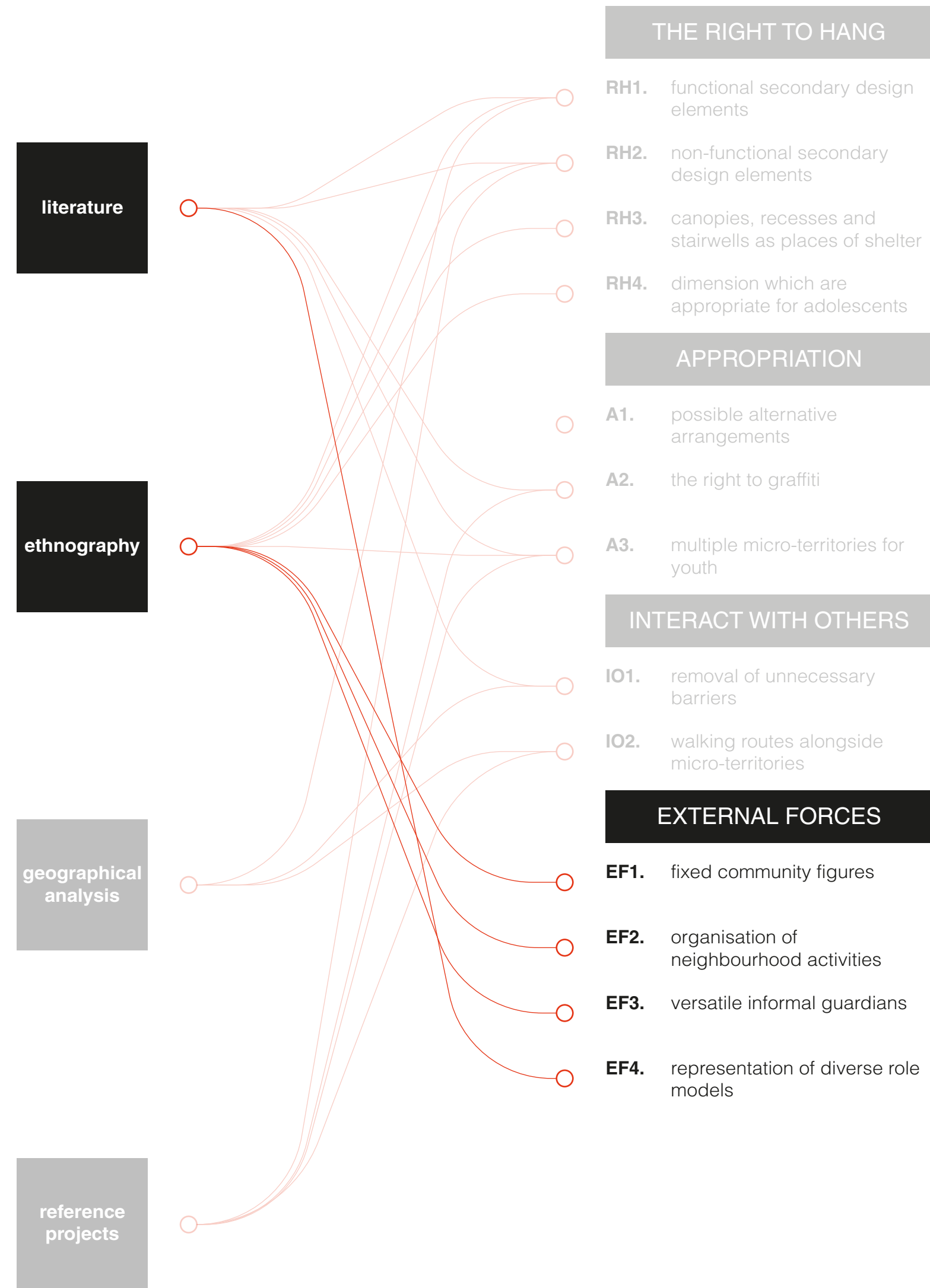


fig. 40: strategic action: external forces

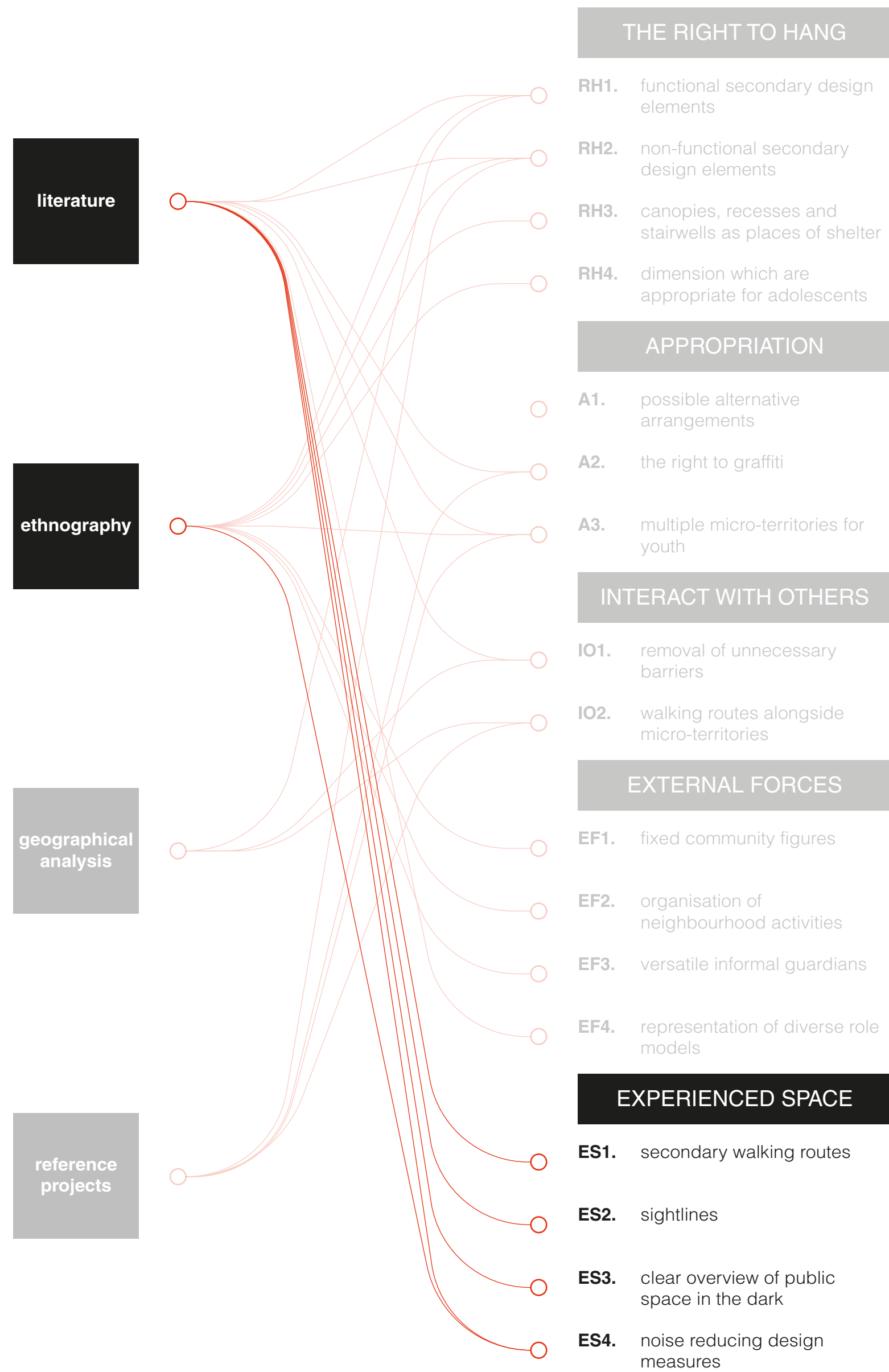


fig. 41: strategic action: experienced space

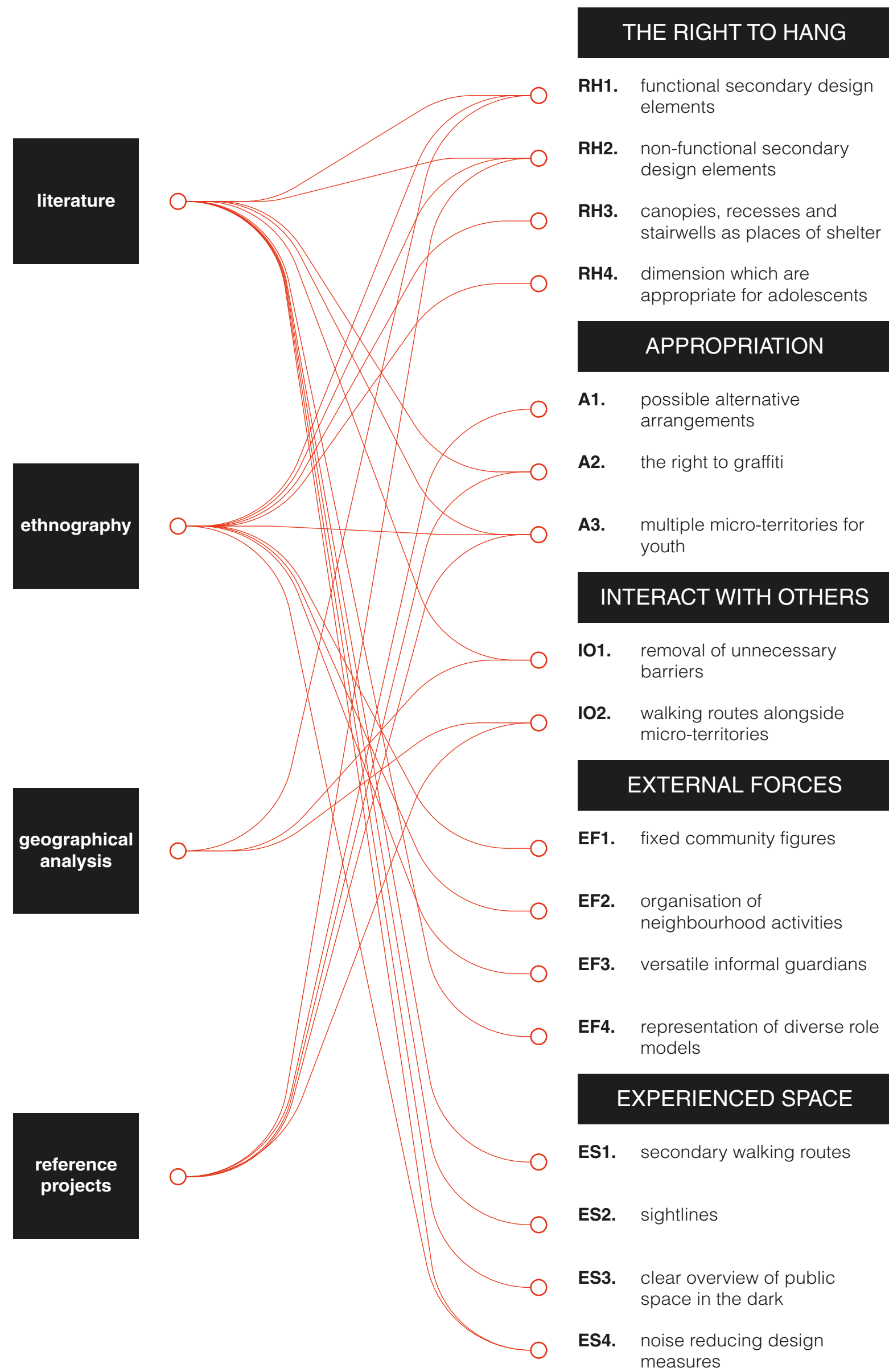


fig. 42: strategic actions overview

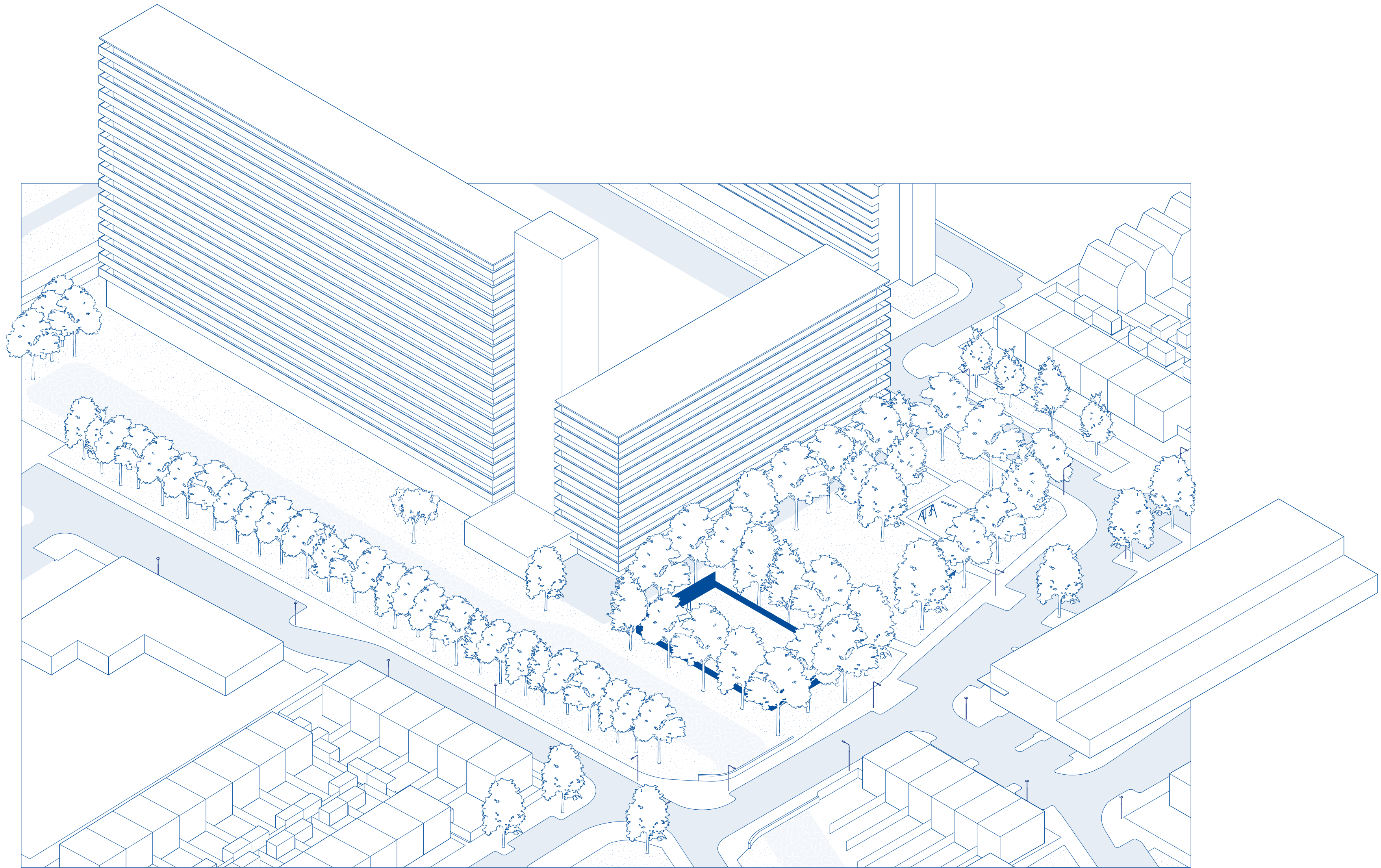


fig. 43: current situation

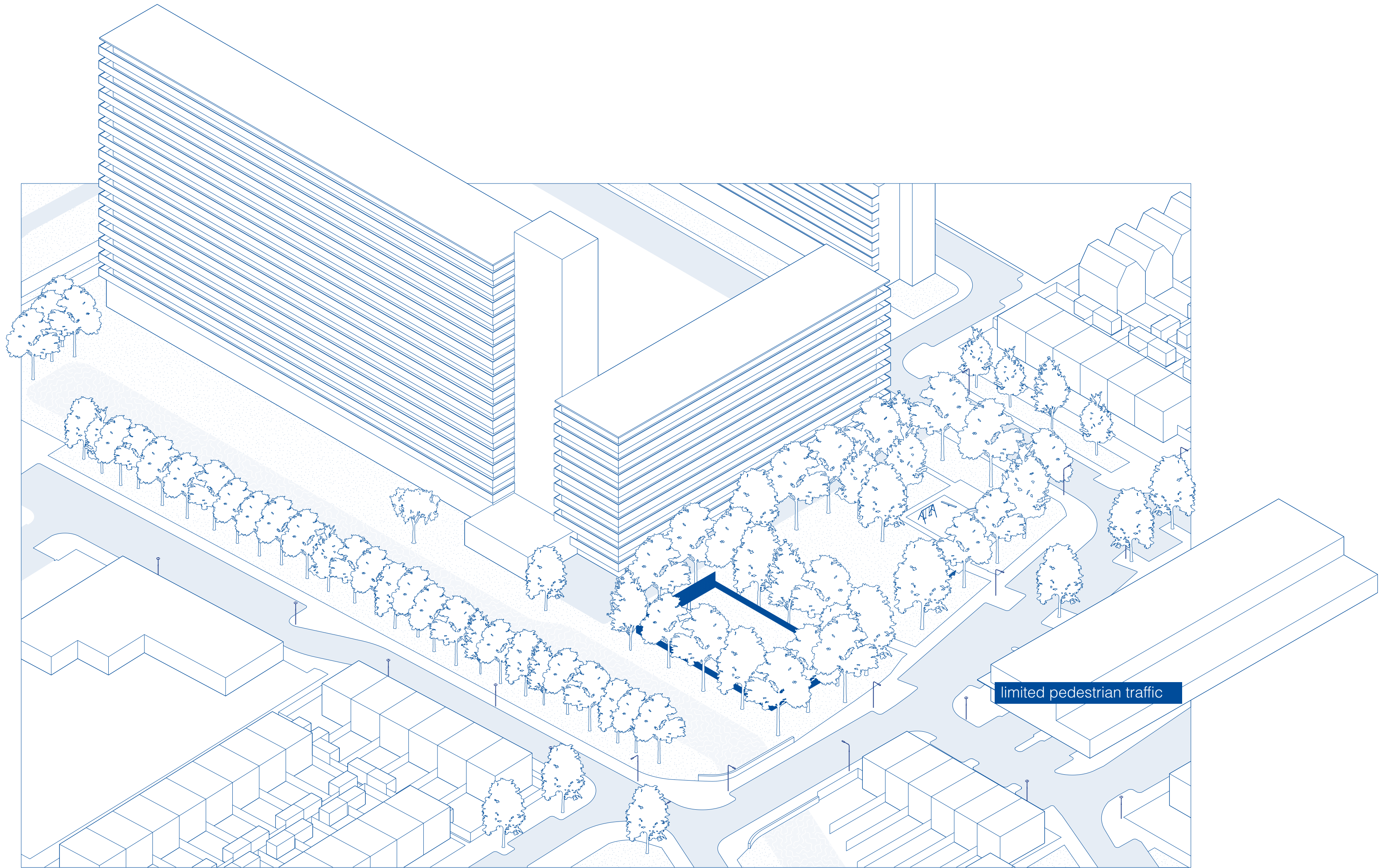


fig. 44: current situation

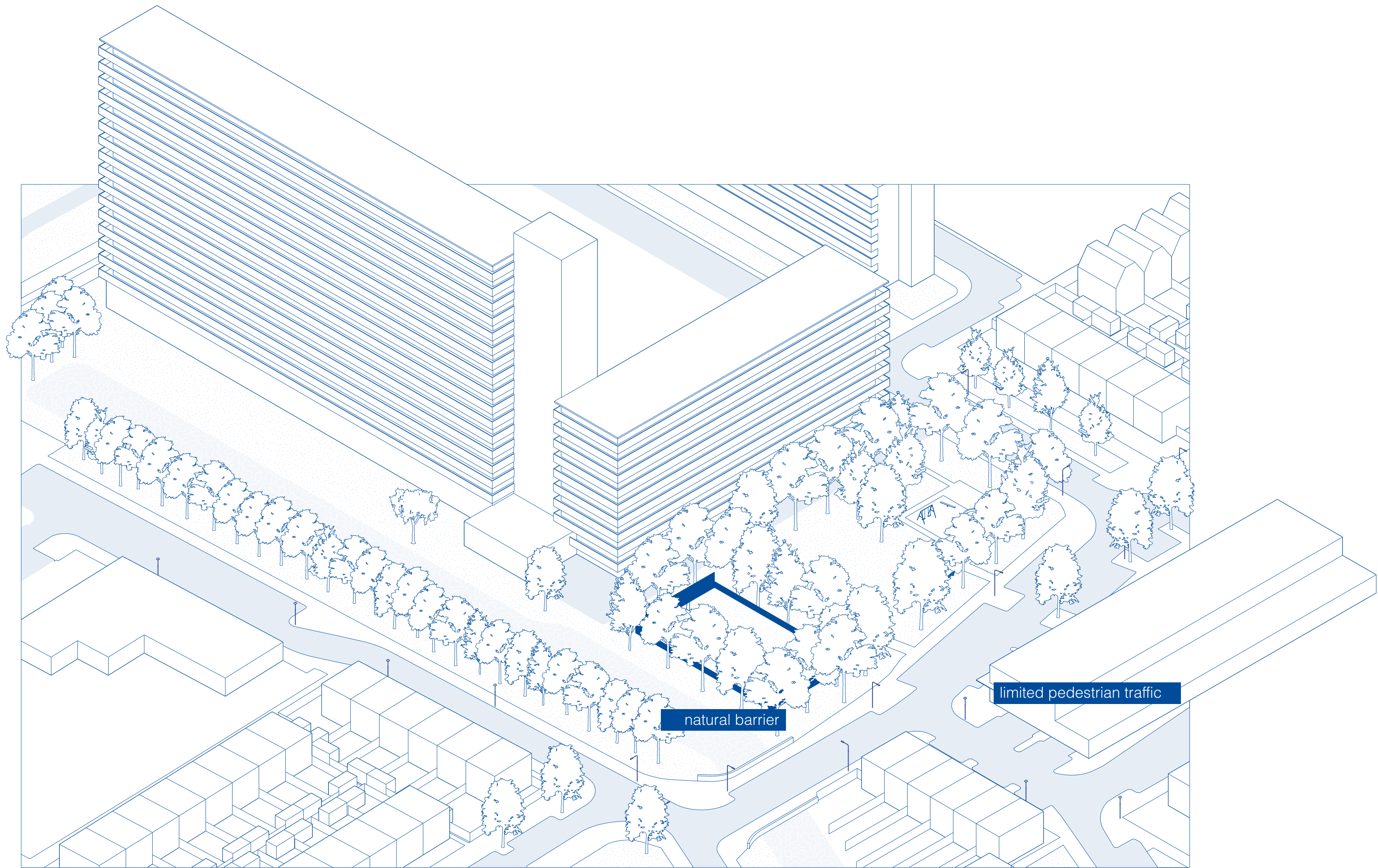


fig. 45: current situation

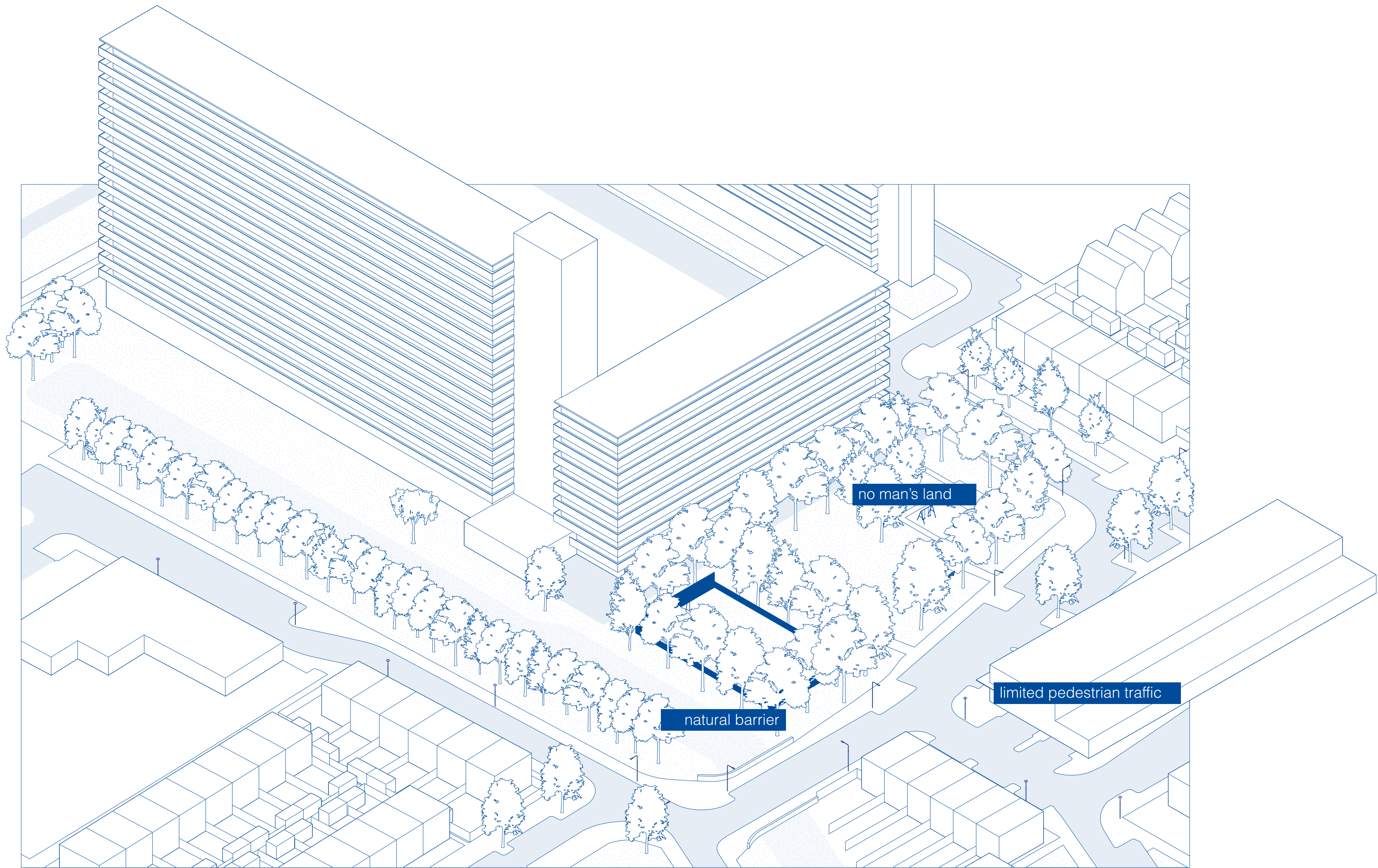


fig. 46: current situation

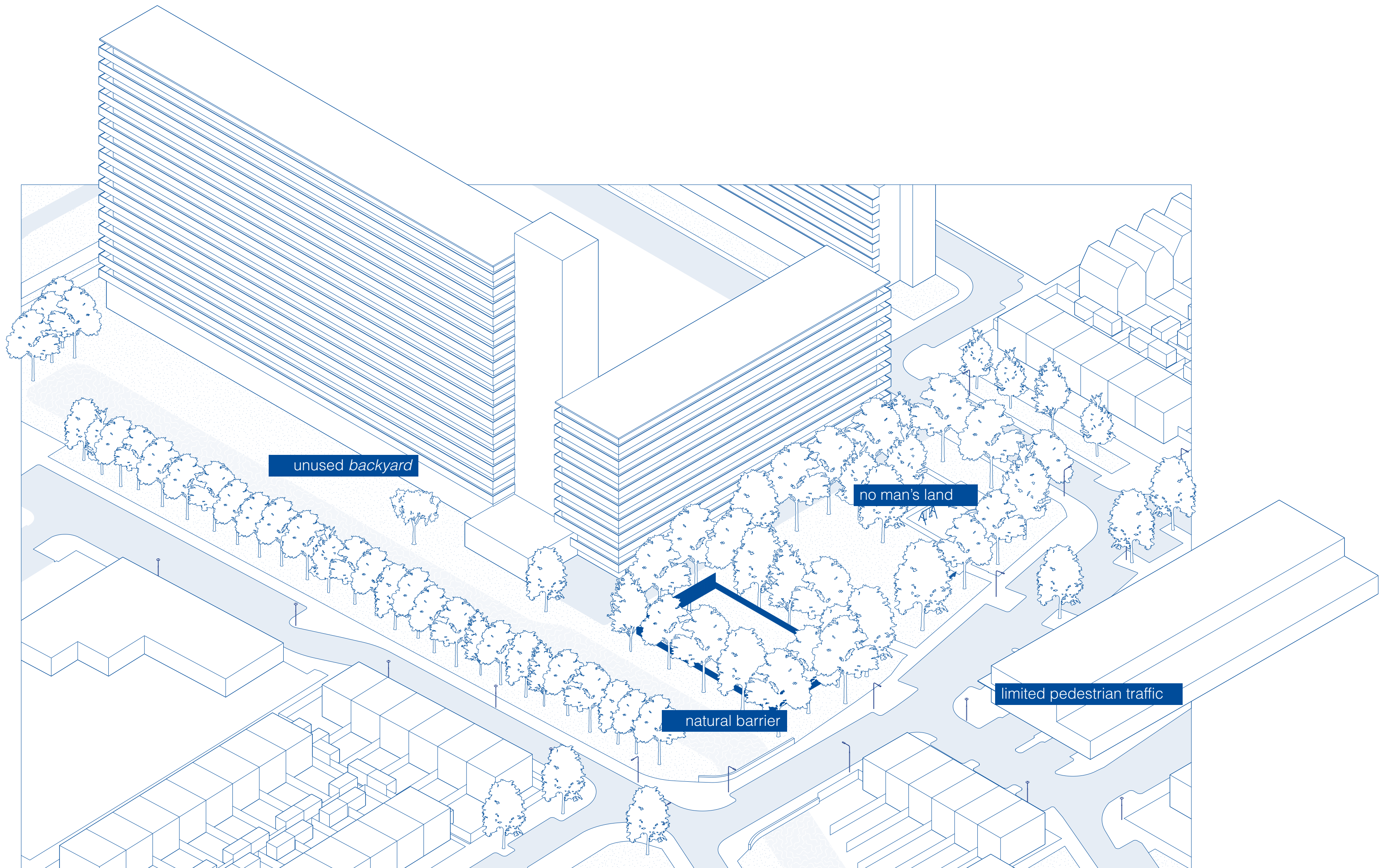
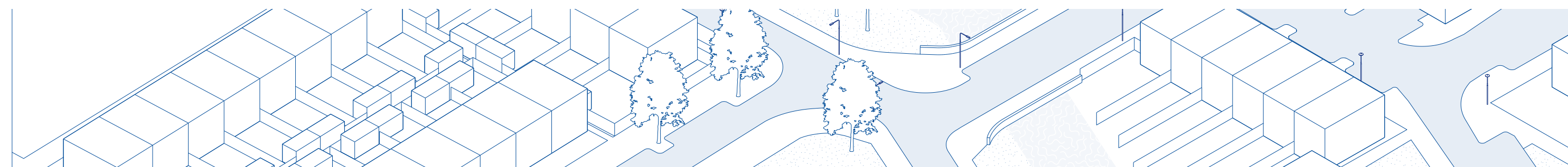


fig. 47: current situation



# HOW CAN URBAN ENVIRONMENTS ACCOMMODATE PLACES OF INTERACTION AND PLACES OF RETREAT WITHIN THE SAME SPATIAL CONTEXT?



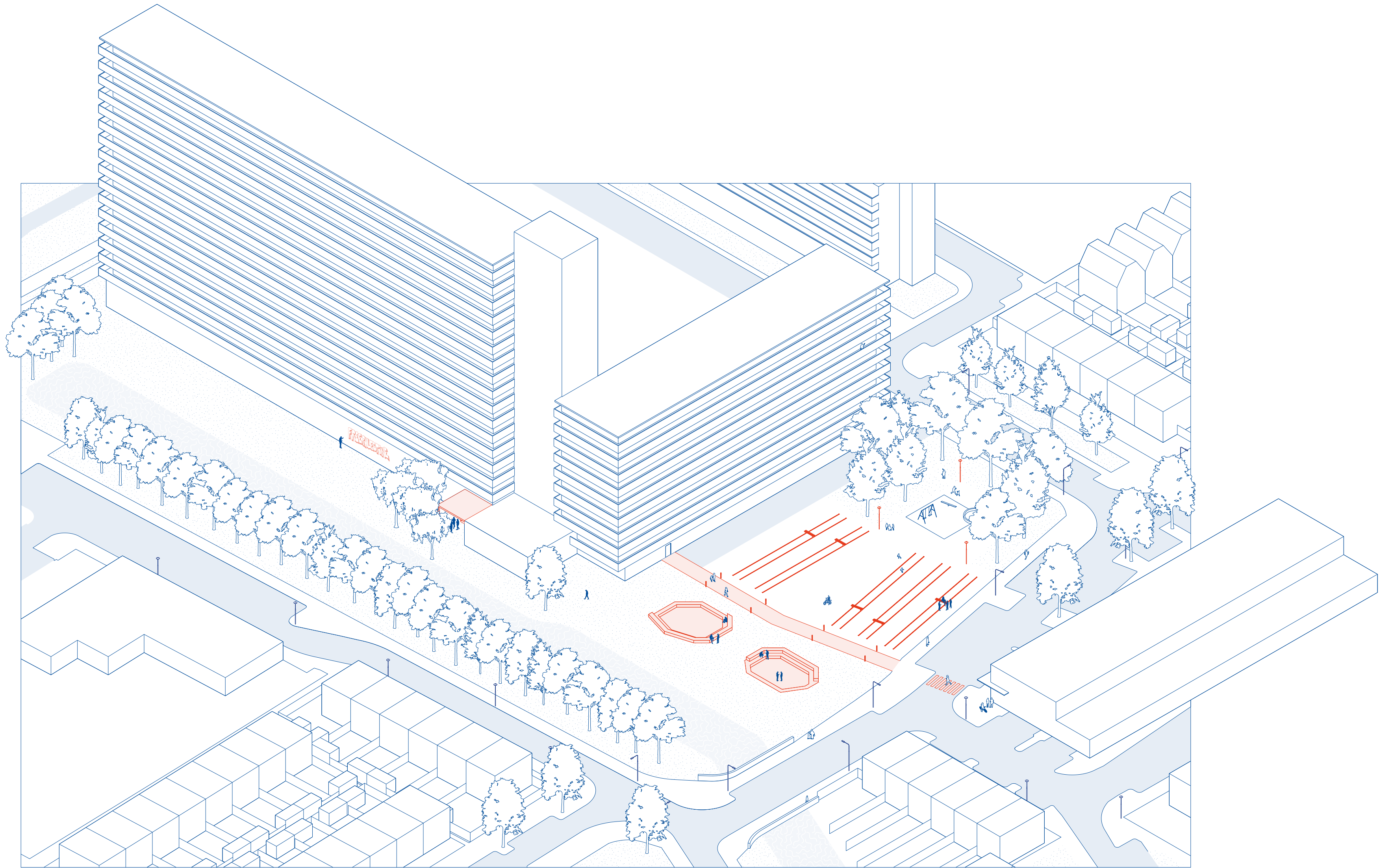


fig. 48: implementation of strategic actions

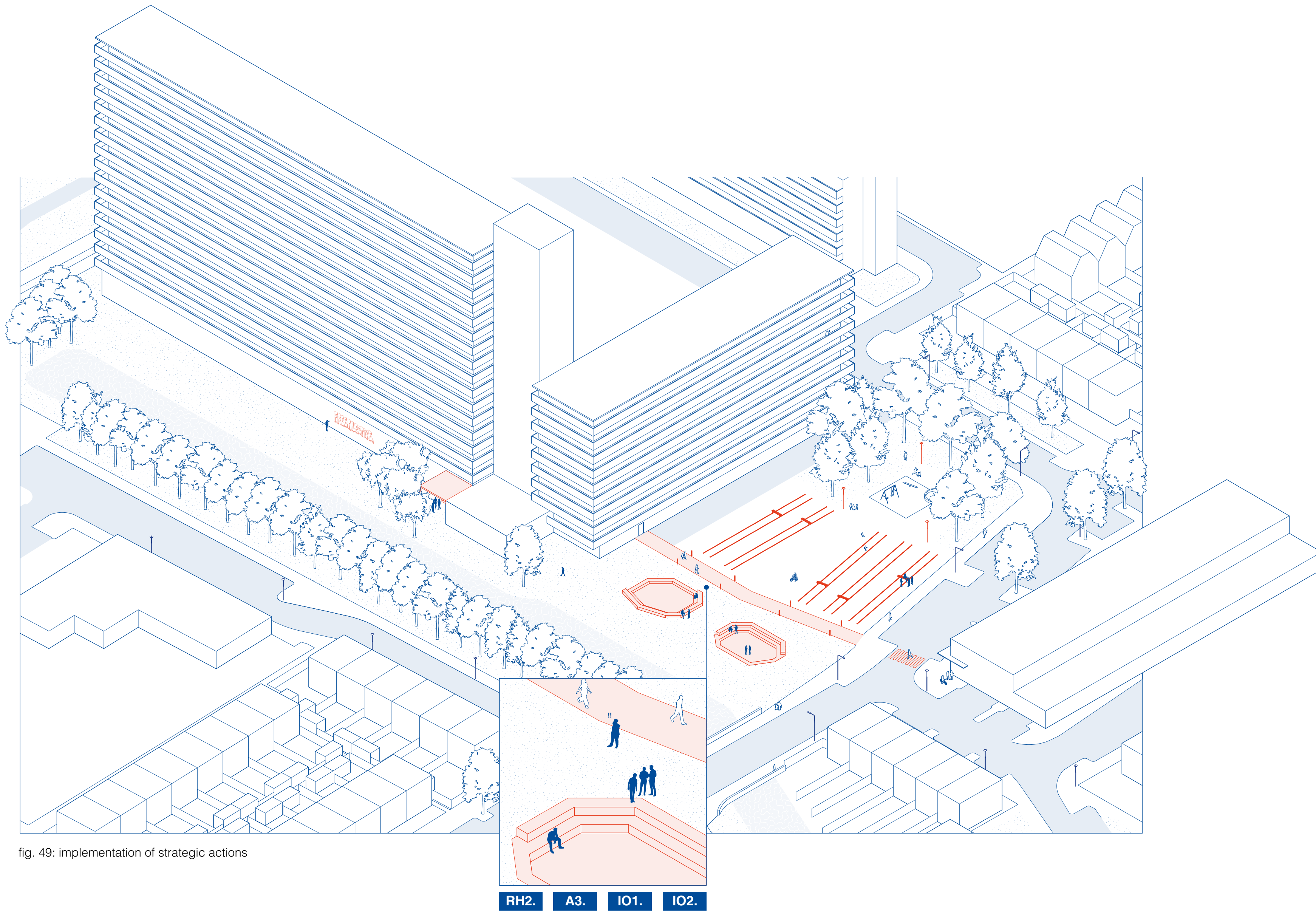


fig. 49: implementation of strategic actions

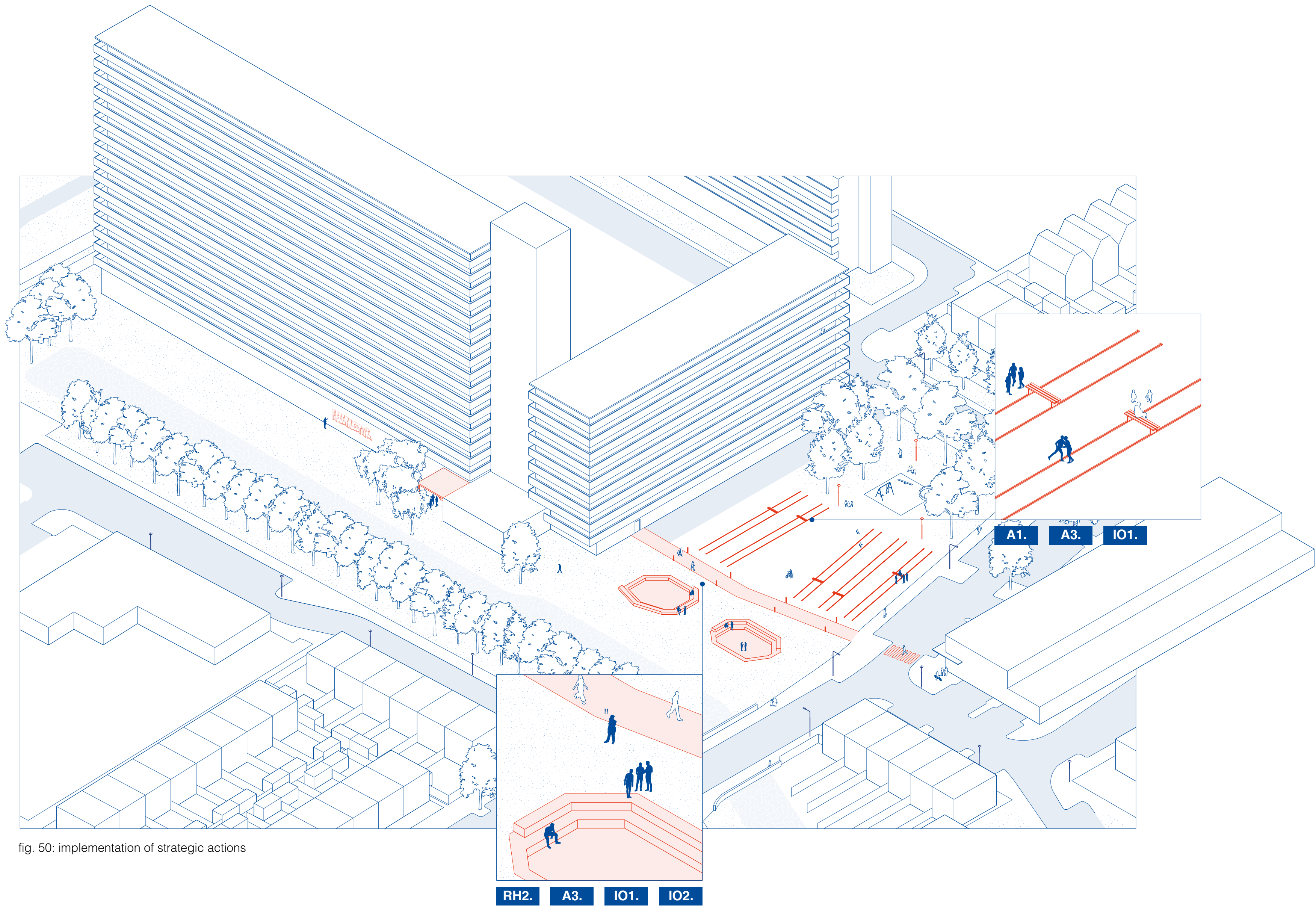


fig. 50: implementation of strategic actions

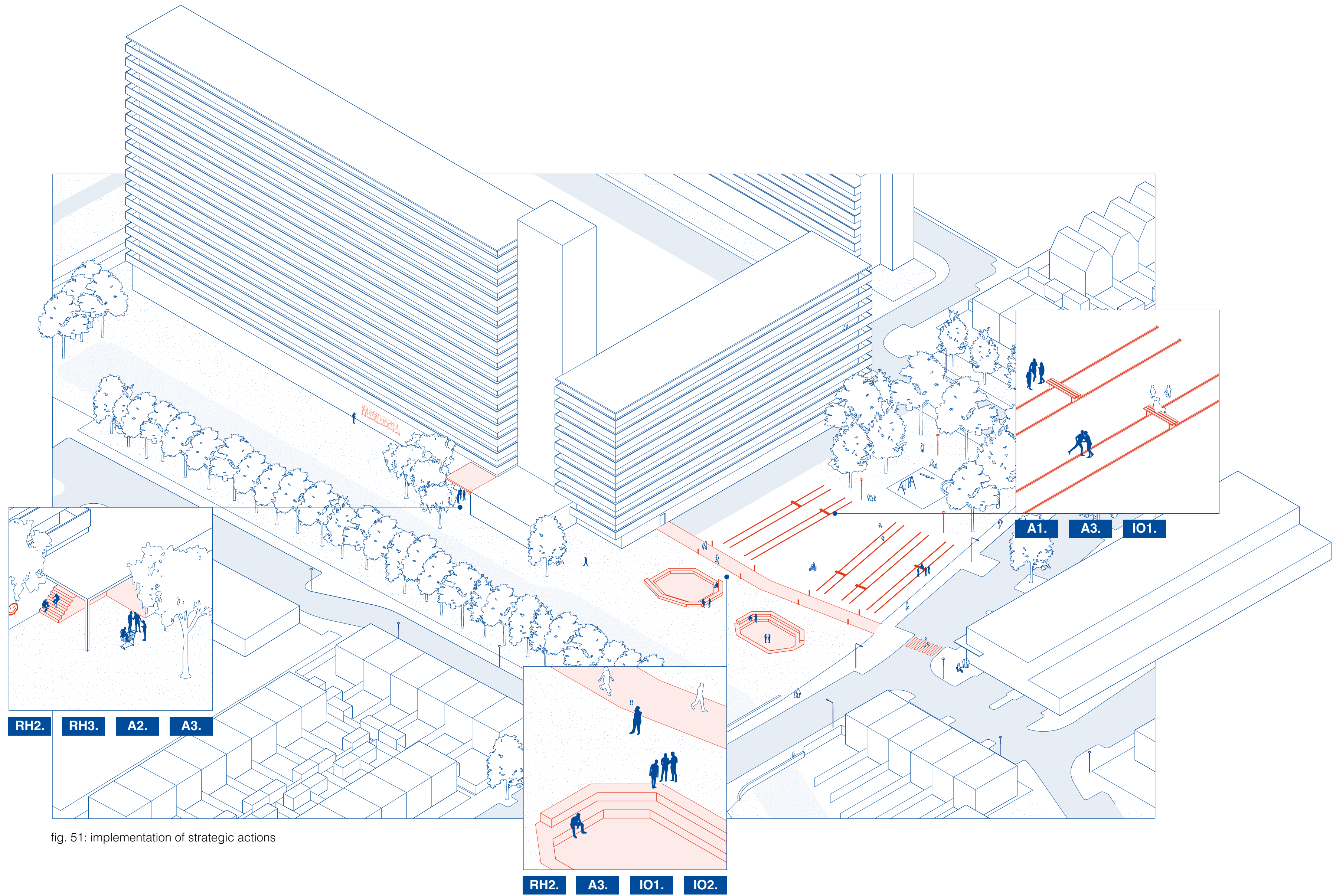


fig. 51: implementation of strategic actions

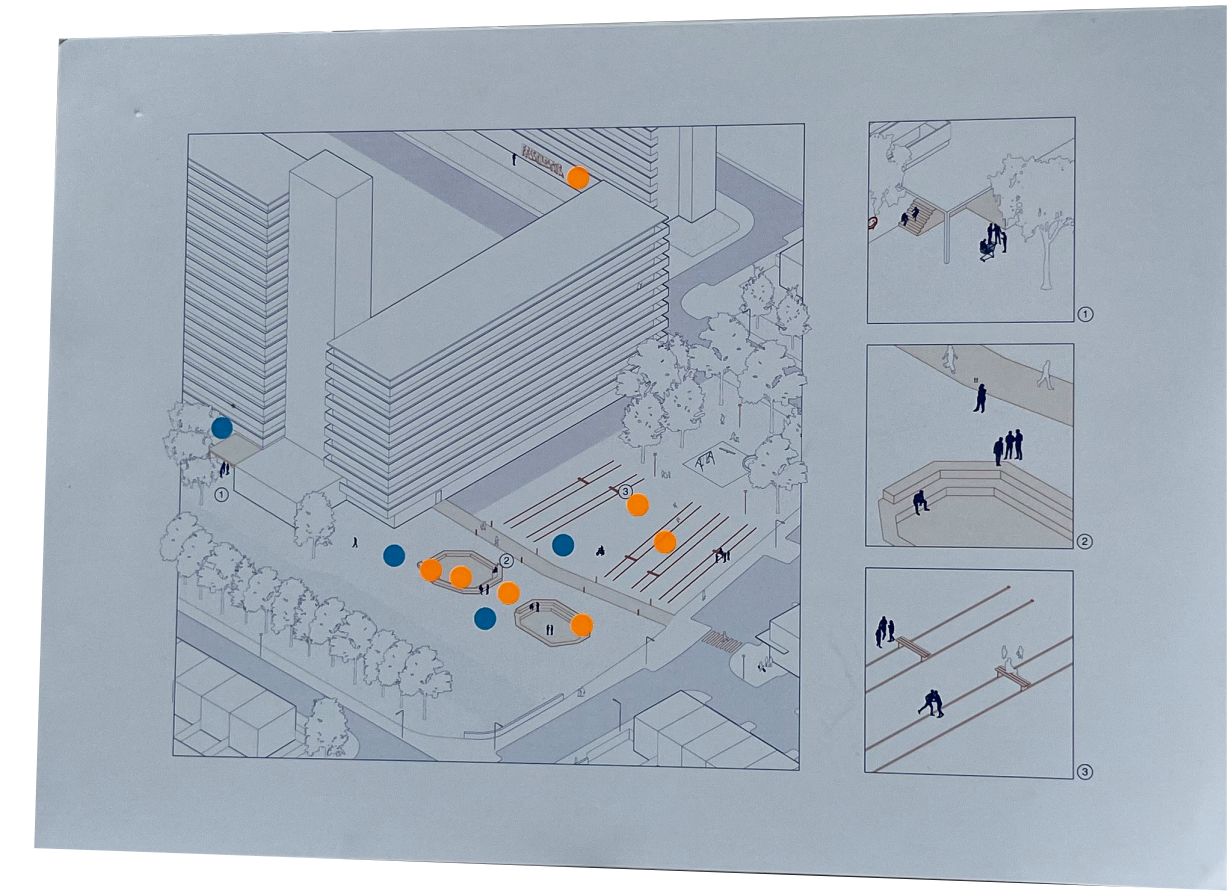


fig. 52: data gathering on preferred and disliked strategic actions

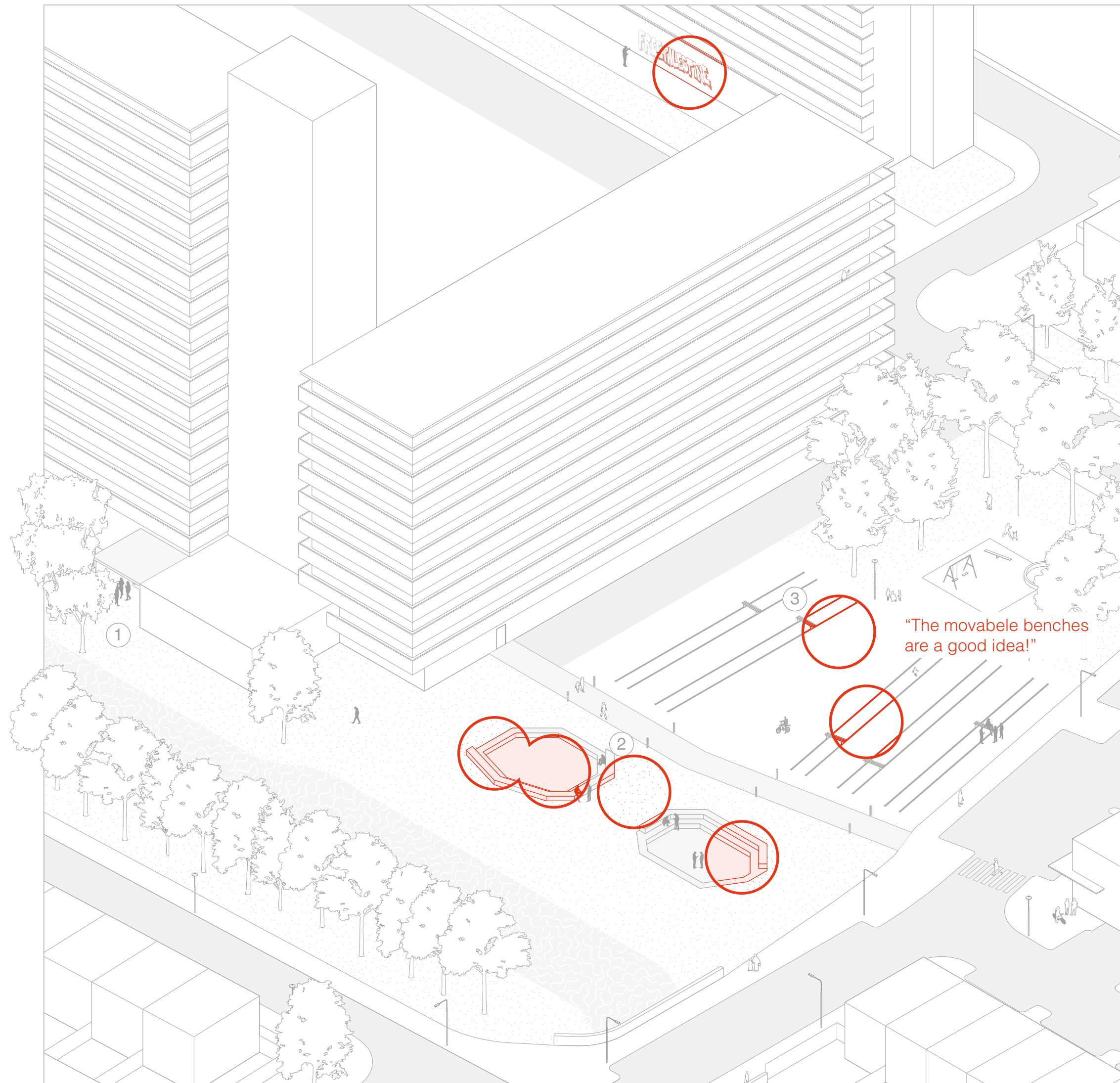
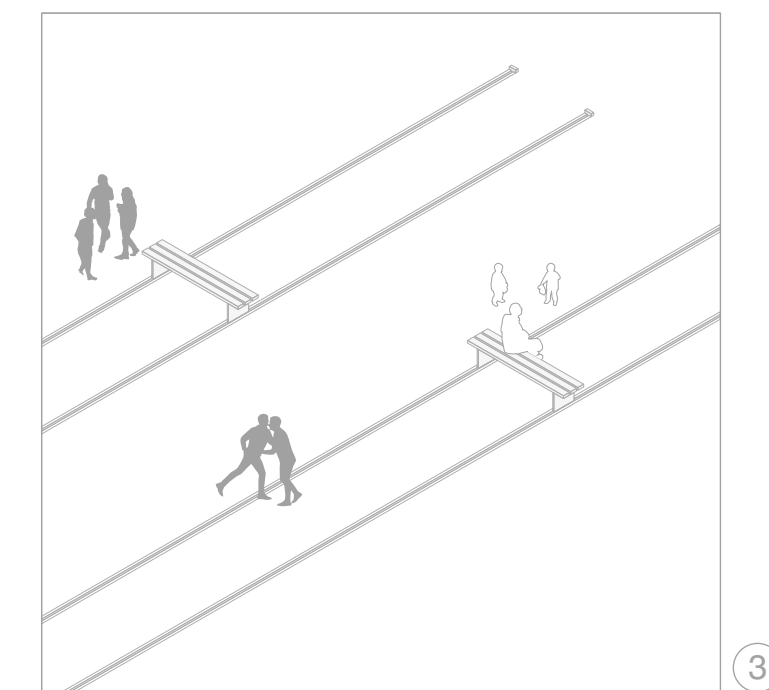
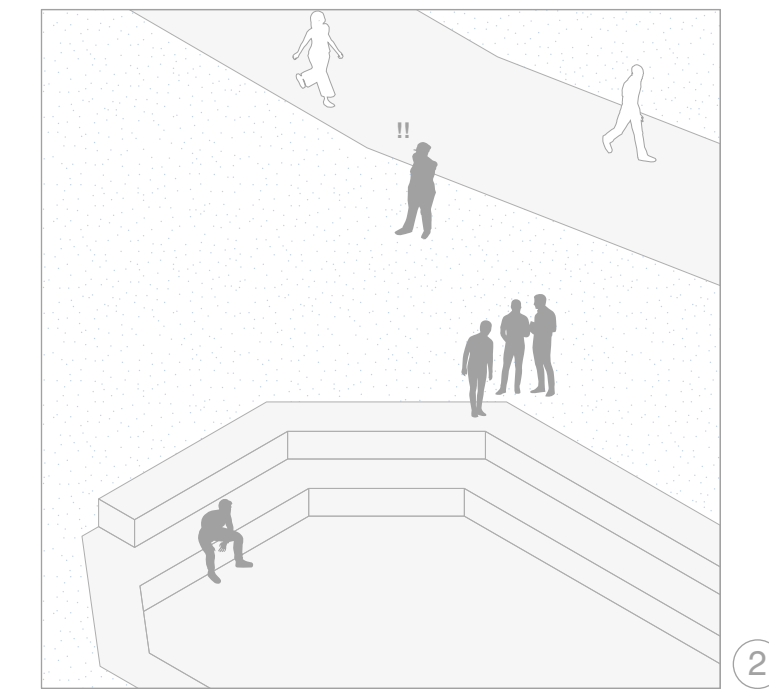


fig. 53: evaluation of preferred strategic actions at project site 1



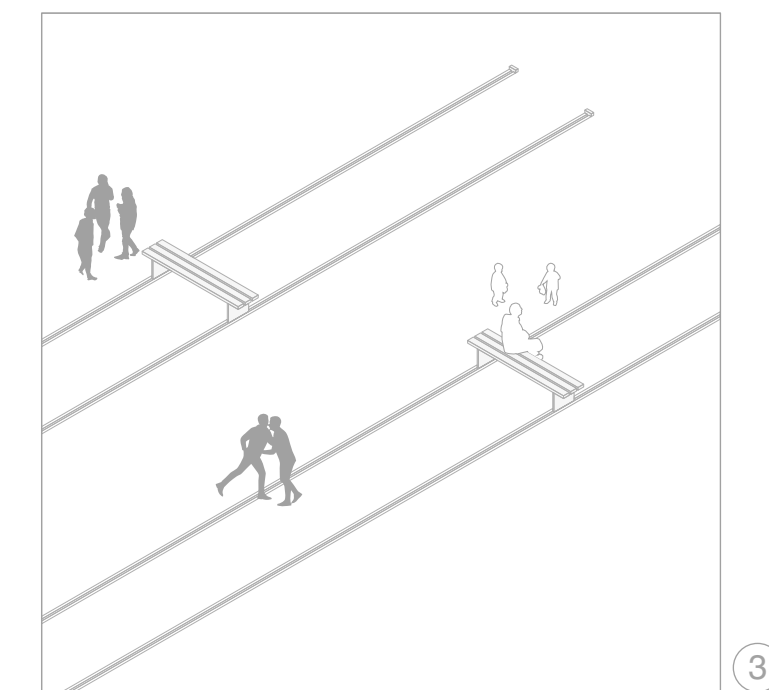
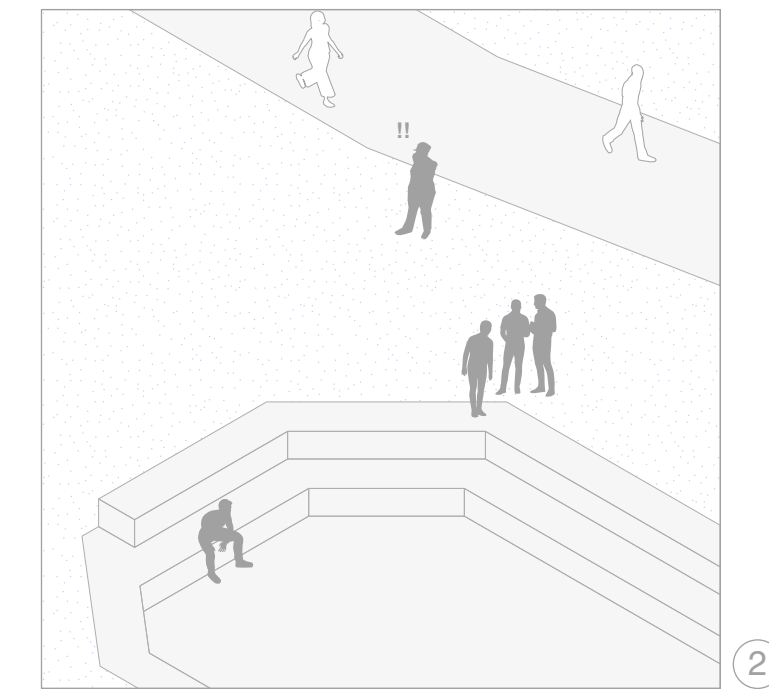
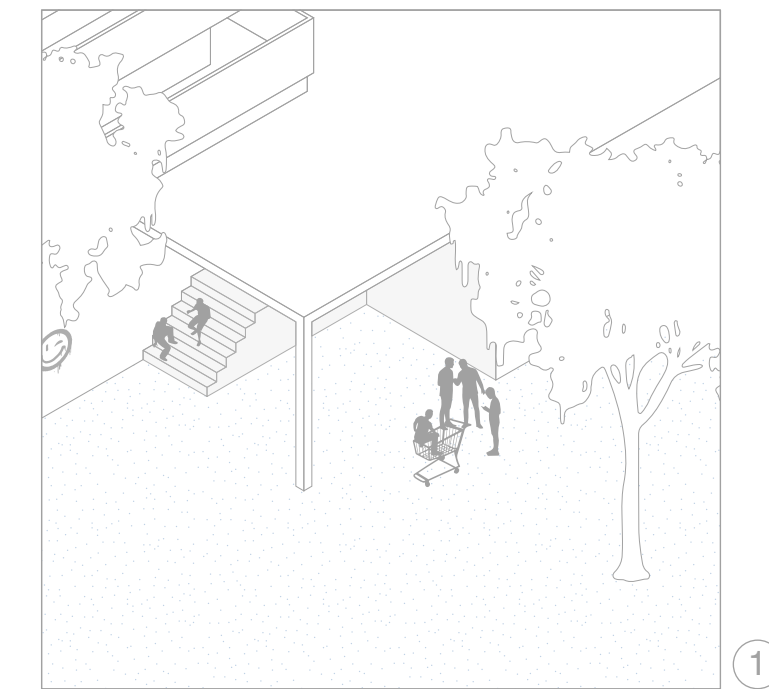
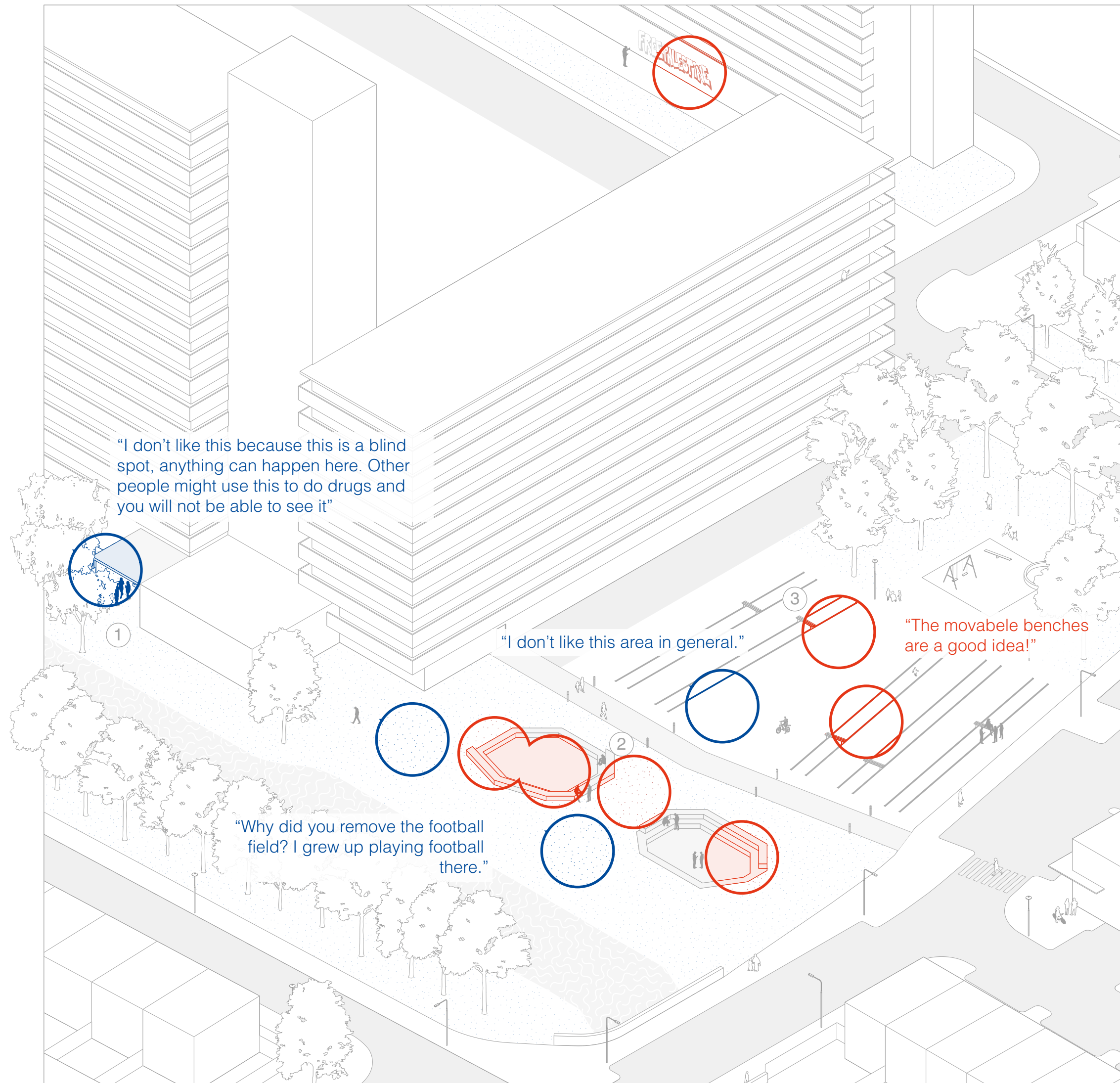


fig. 54: evaluation of disliked strategic actions at project site 1

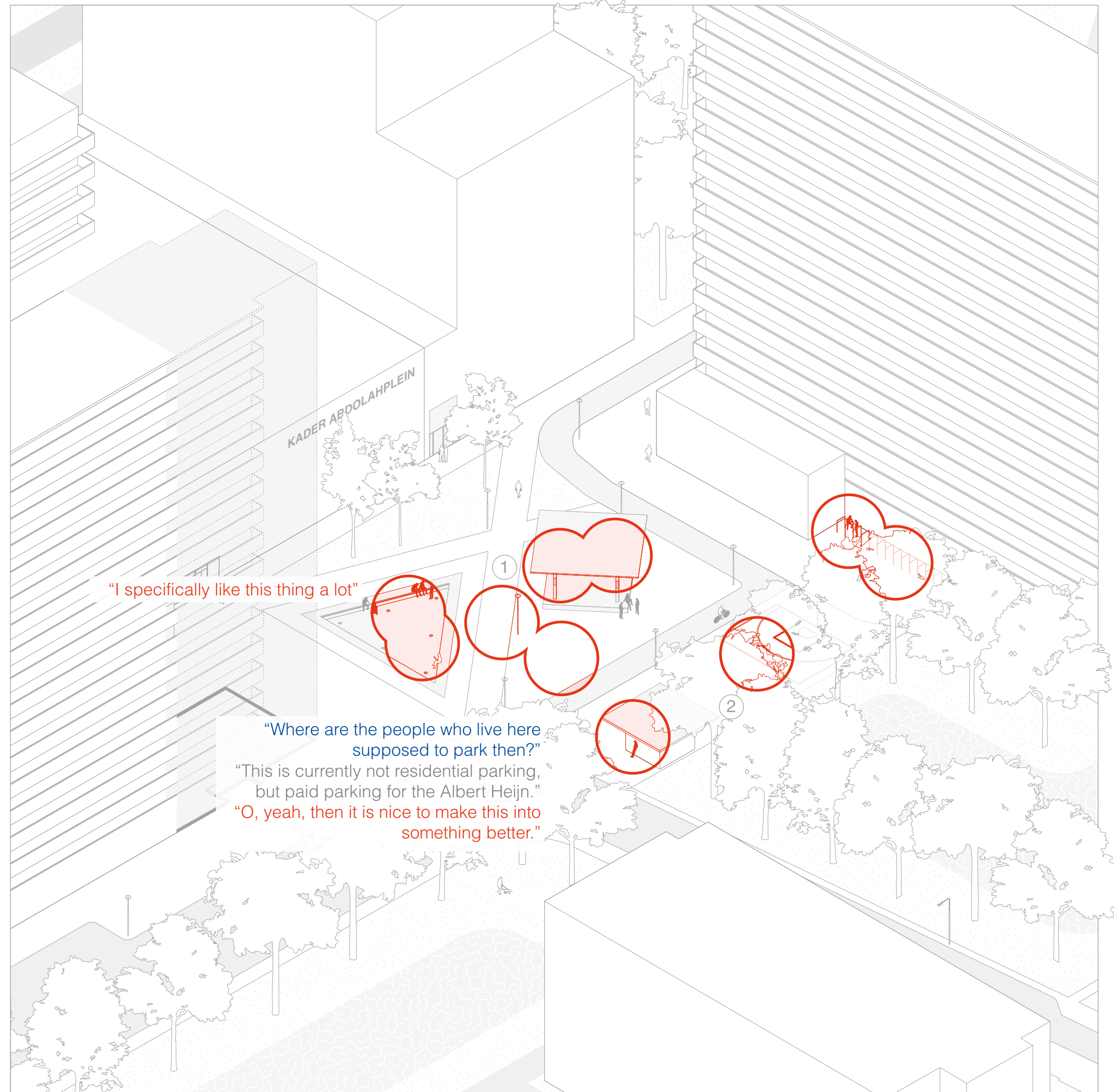


fig. 55: evaluation of strategic actions at project site 2



"We don't have a basketball court in the neighbourhood yet."

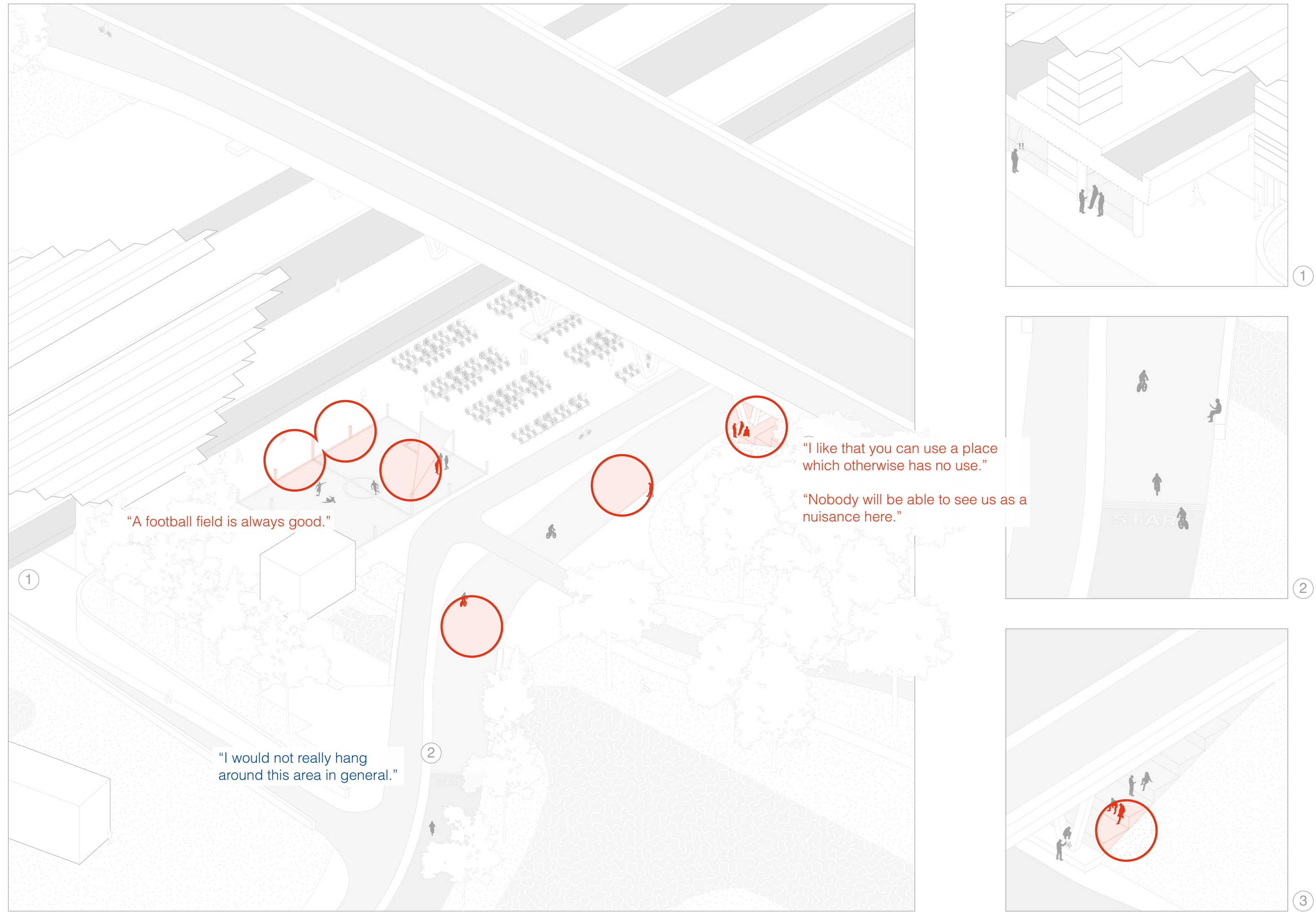


fig. 56: evaluation of strategic actions at project site 3

What socio-spatial interventions can be taken to enhance social cohesion of adolescent youth in post-war, high-rise neighbourhoods through participatory research methods?

What socio-spatial interventions can be taken to enhance social cohesion of adolescent youth in post-war, high-rise neighbourhoods through participatory research methods?

In order to lessen the amount of experienced nuisance and thereby enhance social cohesion, **a greater distribution in places of interaction** throughout the neighbourhood is needed.

What socio-spatial interventions can be taken to enhance social cohesion of adolescent youth in post-war, high-rise neighbourhoods through participatory research methods?

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When designing for the youth, they should not merely be asked about their wishes, but **involved in multiple steps of the process**.

thank you.