

i n t e r v e n t i o n

city
district
street
house

The urban intervention is based on the premise that by integrating spaces, making space more accessible, one is increasing the level of use of those spaces and by increasing levels of use spaces become defined by the users. This means democratic public spaces that are defined by the culture of its users and, as discussed above, such spaces contribute positively towards the economic and social integration of a society.

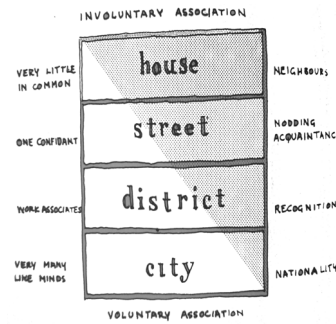


Fig. 097 The Smithsons' Pattern of Association; A Spatial Relationship of Energy Flow

<City>

Problem: urban voids
 insufficient public space
 public spaces have no relationship to each other

Intervention: identify urban voids and convert to public space
 relate public spaces to each other and create pedestrian circulation between and through these spaces

<District>

Problem: disconnected pedestrian paths
 derelict buildings
 lack of diversity

Intervention: redefine pedestrian movement
 identify functions that are lacking in district
 convert dysfunctional buildings to facilitate new functions

<Street>

Problem: buildings are difficult to access
 pockets of activity along the street are juxtaposed by isolated spaces
 no parks or spaces to relax

Intervention: redefine the building's relationship to the street
 connect pockets of isolated spaces to activity
 create pockets of relaxing spaces along activity spines

<House>

Problem: buildings are disconnected from the street
 buildings are underused
 buildings house single functions

Intervention: integrate buildings with the street
 insert multiple functions

Definition: (relationship between building + street and building + building.)
relationship n. the way in which two or more people or things are connected, or the state of being connected > the way in which two or more people or groups regard and behave towards each other. (Oxford English Dictionary 1999)

B+S: As blood vessels sustain cells, buildings rely on streets for energy. The streets supply buyers, traders, fixers, shoppers, users, workers, cleaners, consumers and sellers. Movement around a building enables, and predicts, movement into and within a building. If the street lacks energy, or the buildings hinders the flow of street energy, the building will not be supplied with a constant flow of users. The relationship between building and street refers to the movement between the two. A building with no street relationship means lack of movement between the two, a building with a street relationship mean that street has access to interior space of a building and that building has access to the street activity

B+B: Buildings are confronted by surrounding buildings, which result in adjacent spaces that connect buildings through movement, visual contact and physical mass. Buildings can be connected to various degrees depending on the facilities (public spaces, services, amenities, communal spaces) that are shared, view from and into buildings and the ease of movement from one building to another. Buildings of similar functions within a district are connected because residence follow similar daily patterns and often share spaces that fulfil these patterns. They are thus connected by local social spaces. Buildings that have poor relationships toward each other result in a districts that have poor movement flows, vacant buildings and isolated spaces.

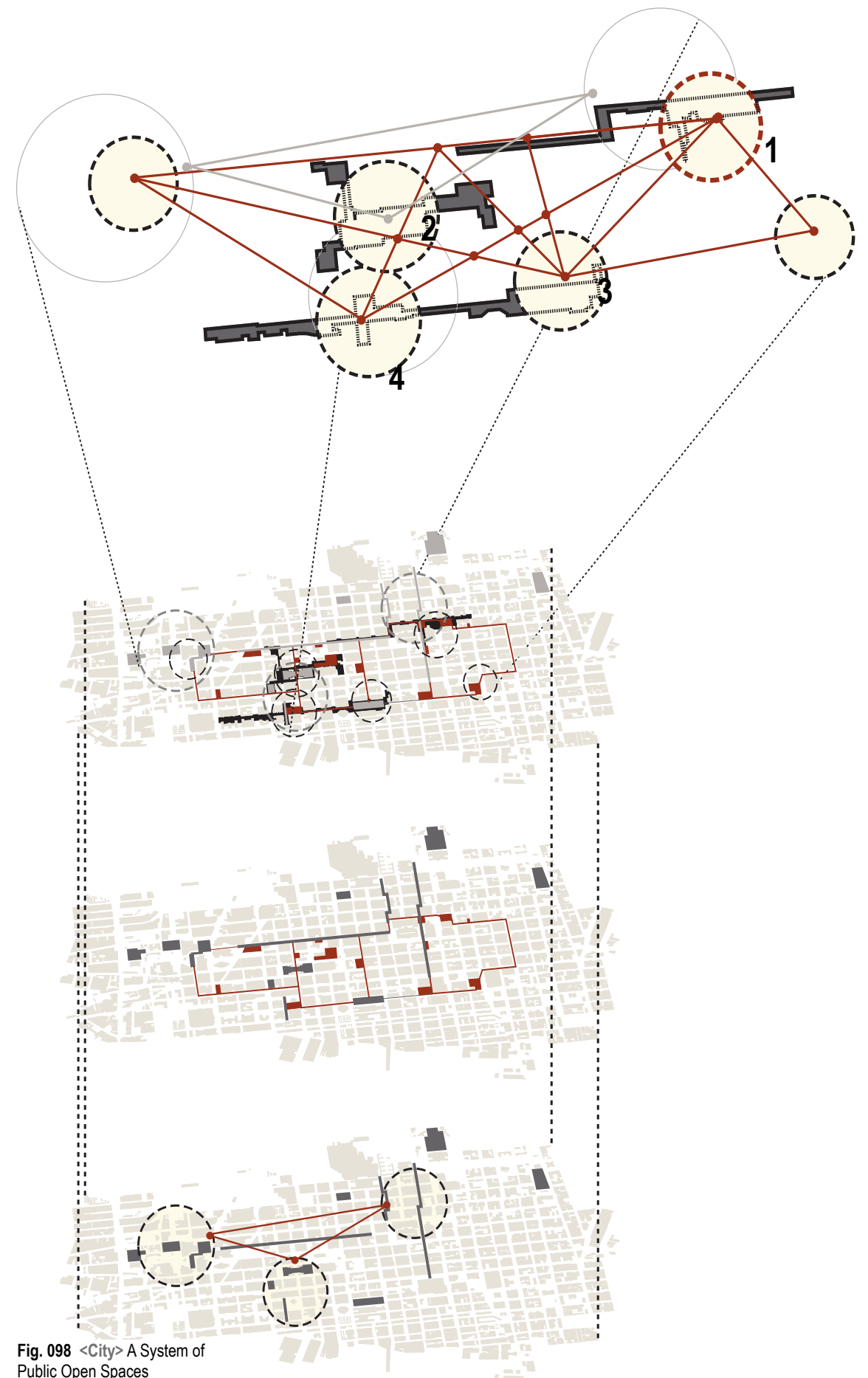


Fig. 098 <City> A System of Public Open Spaces

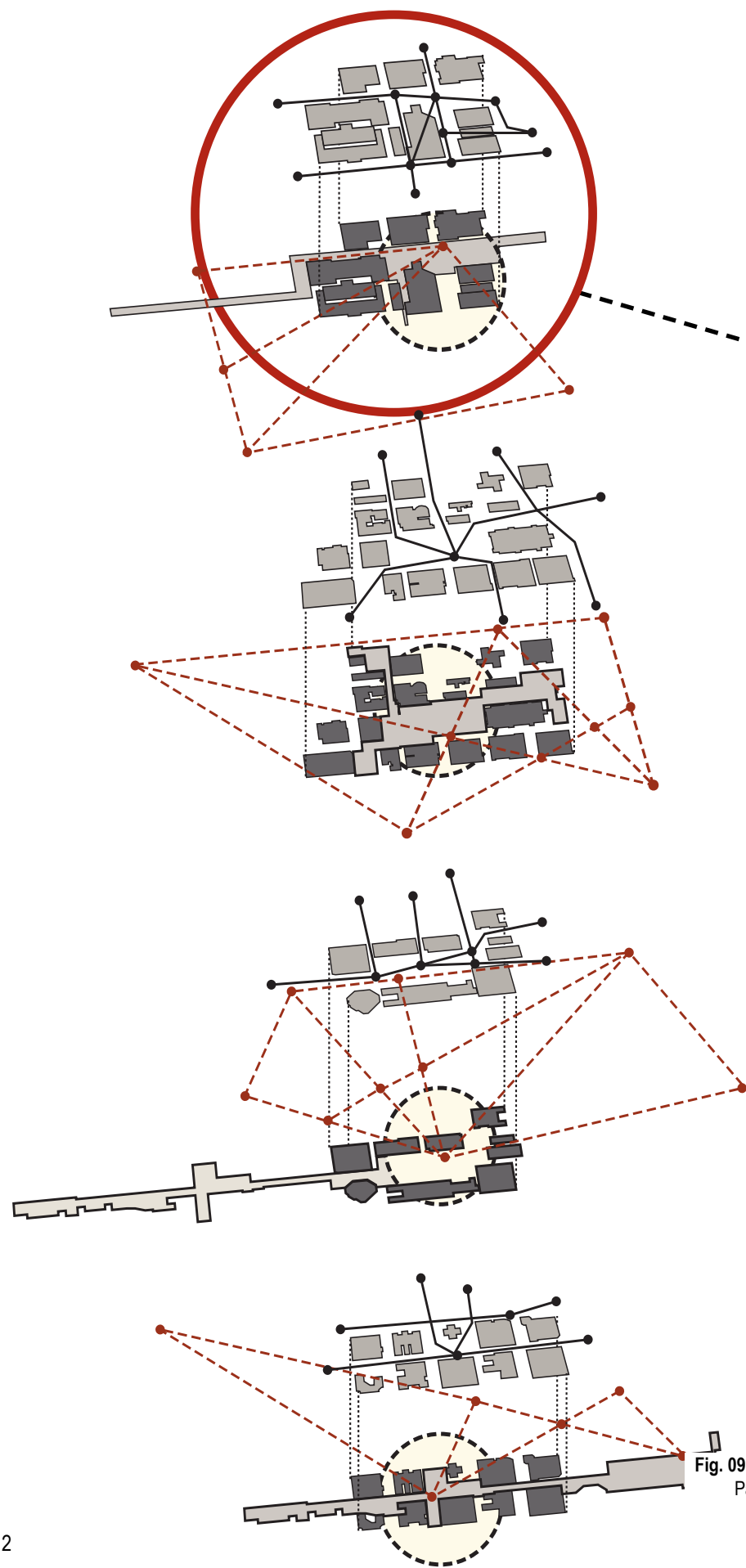
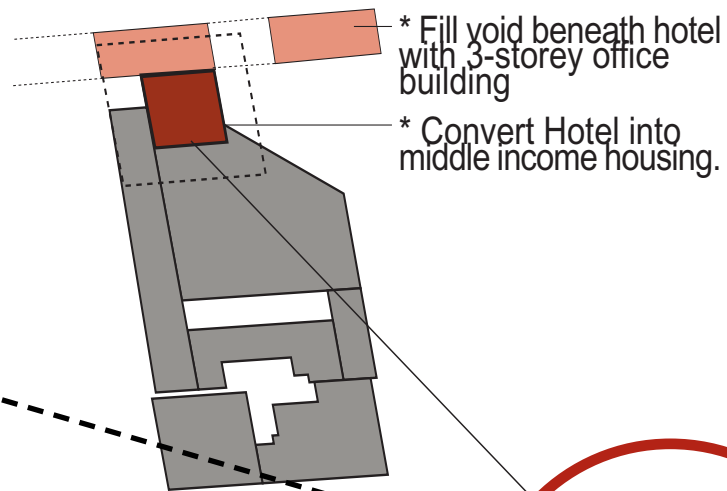
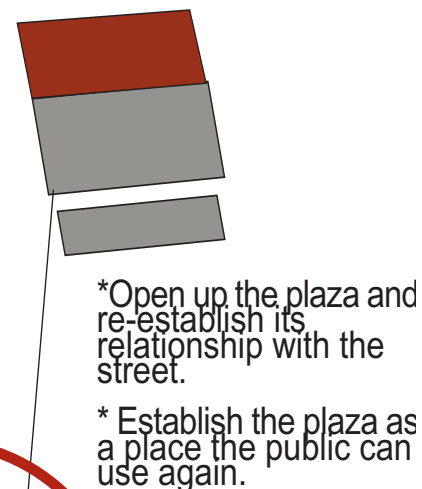


Fig. 099 <Districts> Connective Patterns that Link Spaces + District To City

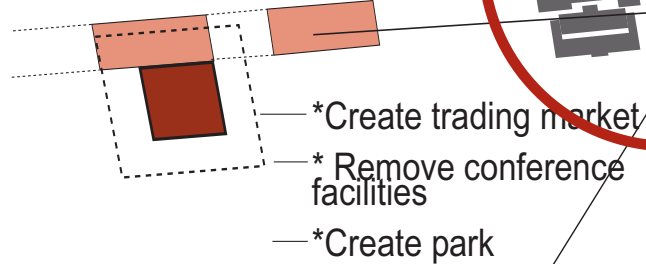
Johannesburg Sun:
Hotel



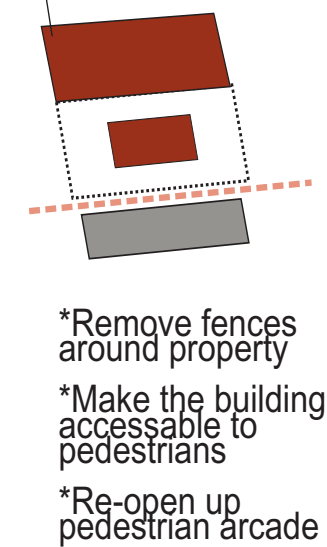
Sunken Plaza



Johannesburg Sun:
Conference Facilities



Marble Towers



Towers Hotel

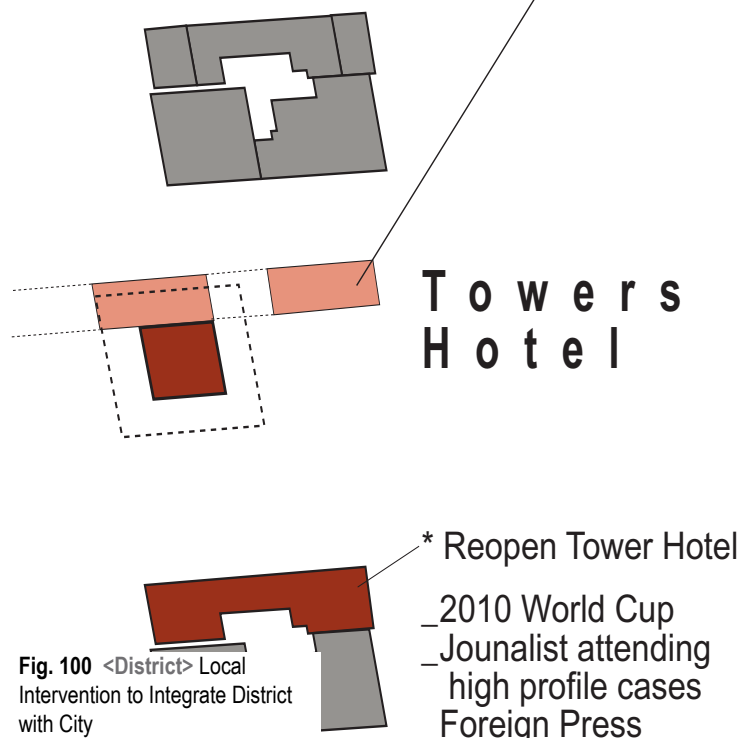
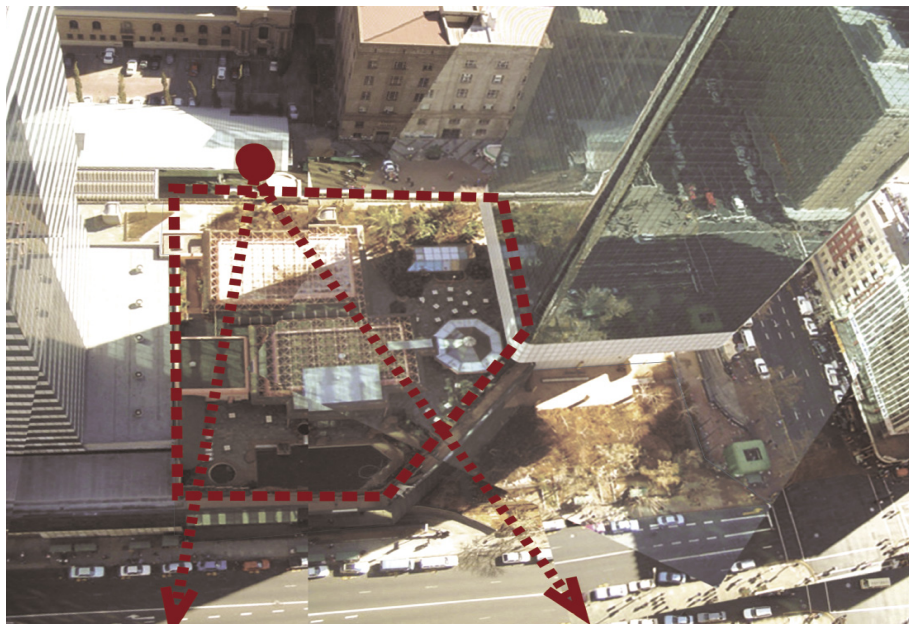
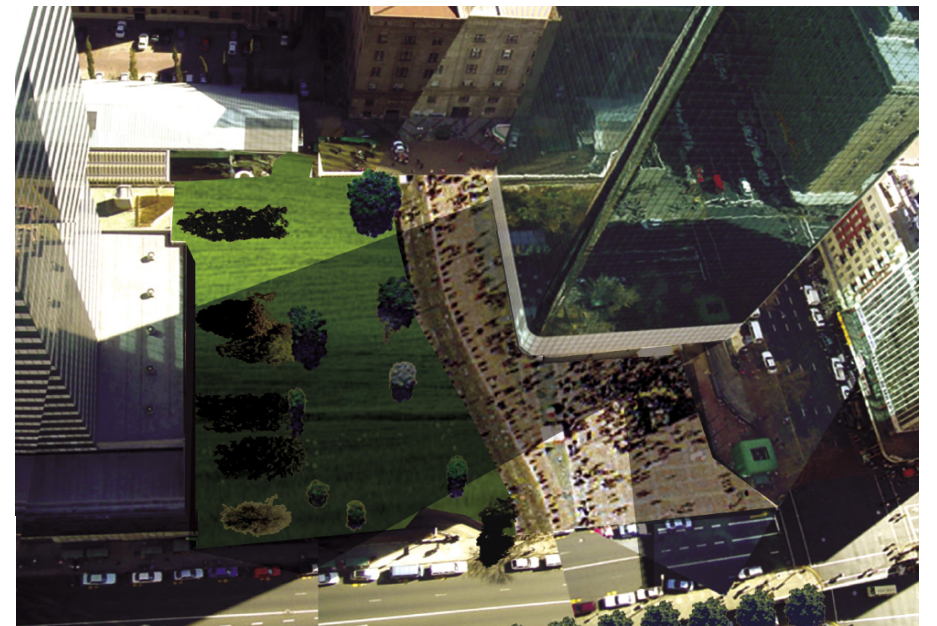


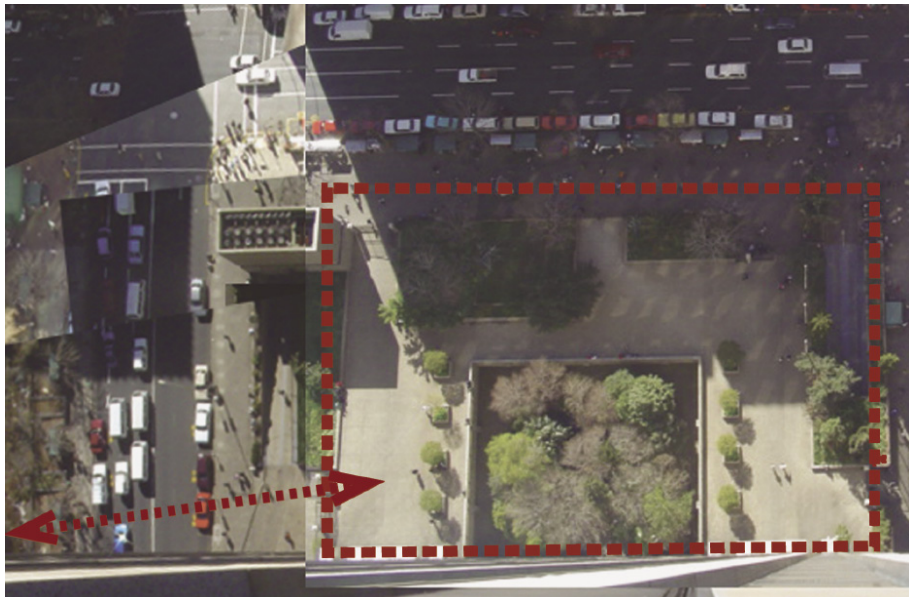
Fig. 100 <District> Local Intervention to Integrate District with City



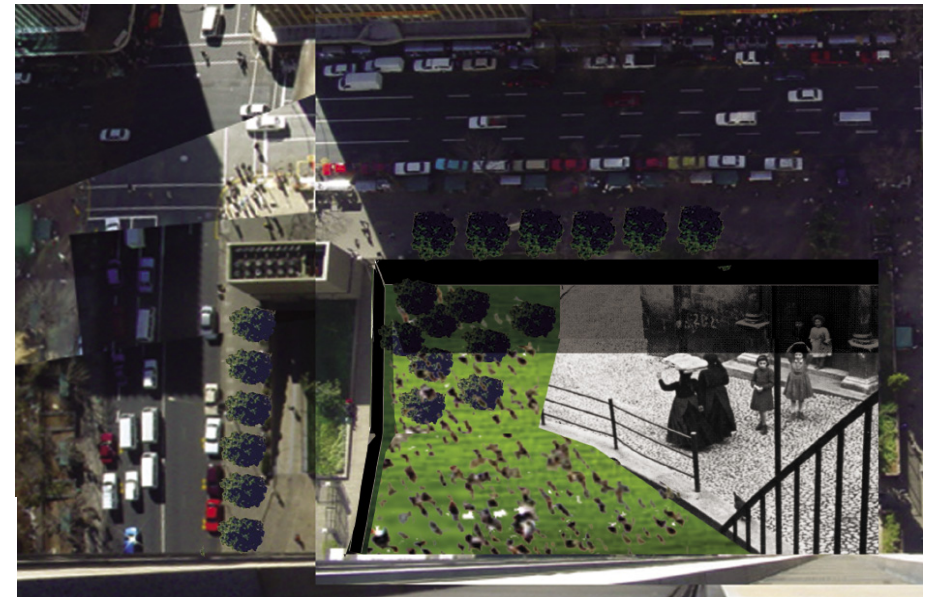
Conference facilities obstructing movement



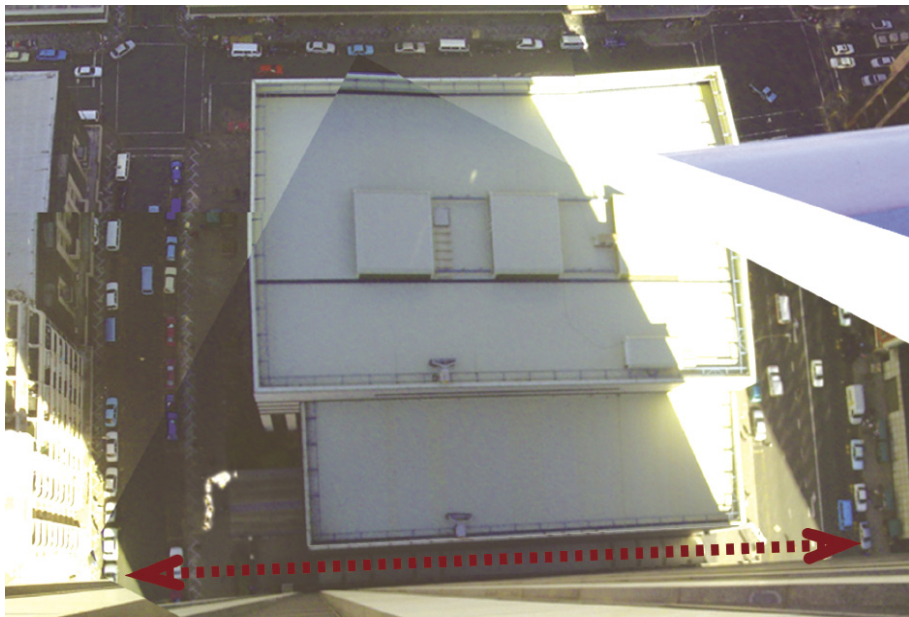
New pedestrian path, park and trading market



Empty space



New sunken plaza



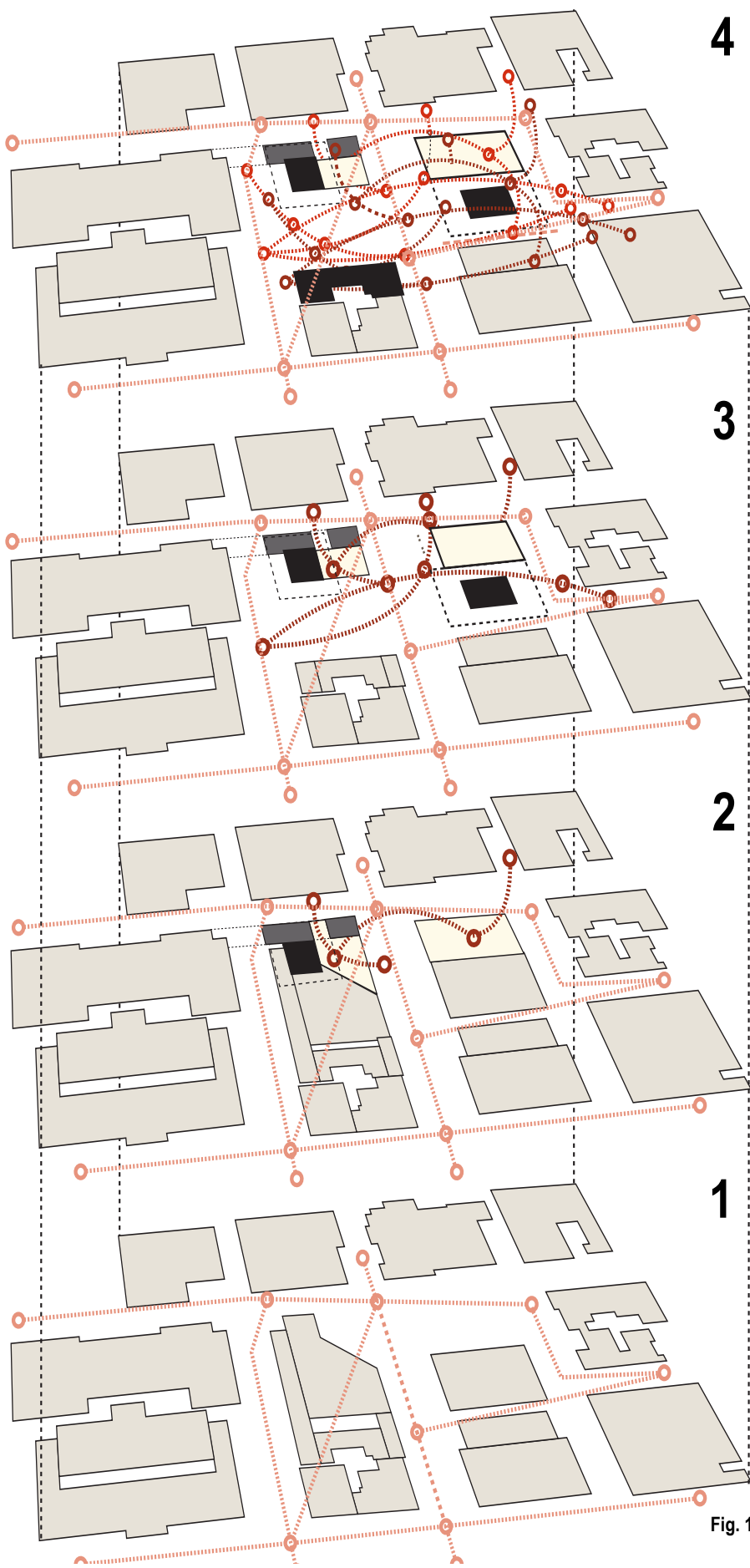
Closed-off pedestrian route



Re-opened pedestrian route

Fig. 101
<District> Existing District

Fig. 102 <District>
Intervention in District



4
Pedestrian movement after pedestrain path is opened and ramp leading to sunken plaza is established

3
Pedestrian movement after conference facilities is removed

2
Pedestrian movement after sunken plaza is opened and market established

1
Desired pedestrain movement if district is to connect to city

Fig. 103 <Street> New Linking of Spaces

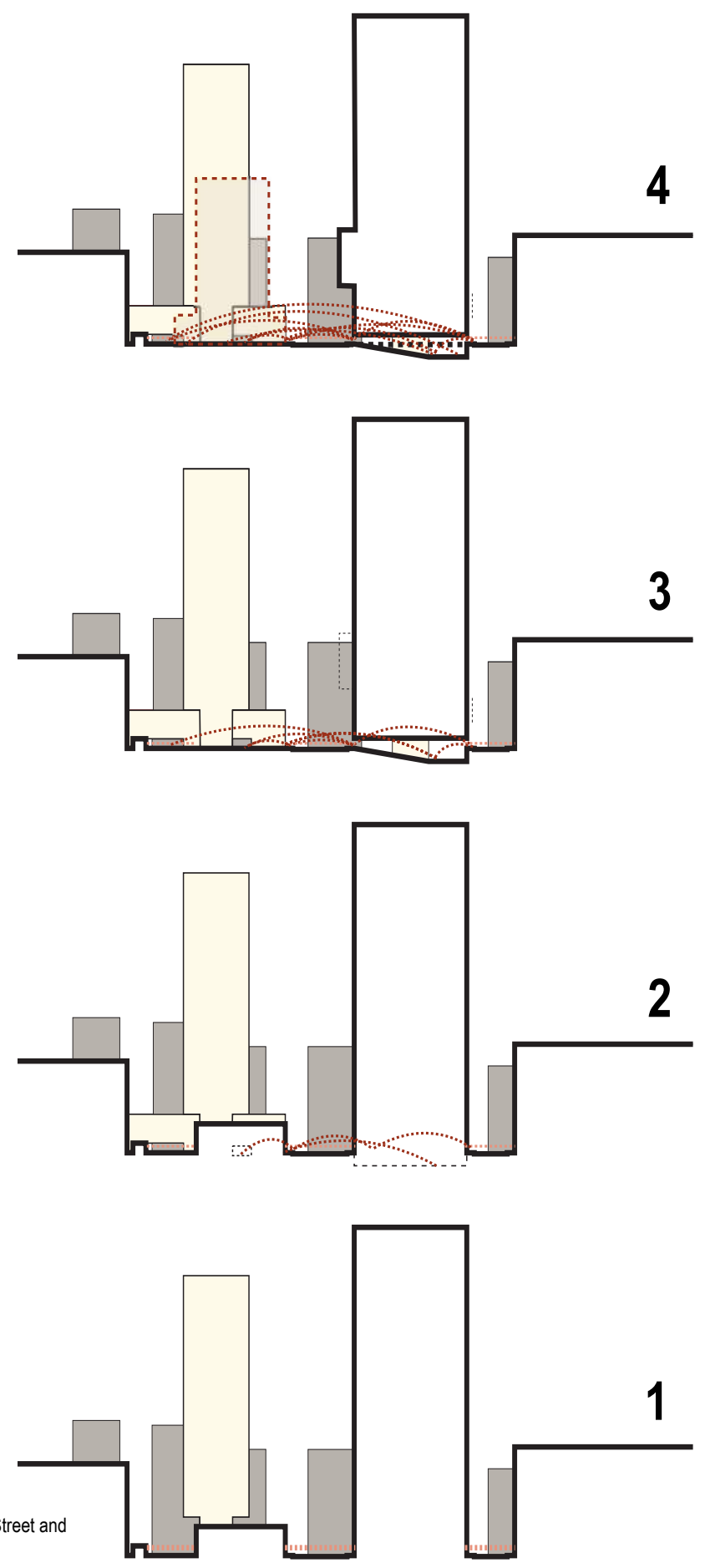
Space relationships after pedestrain path is opened and ramp leading to sunken plaza is established

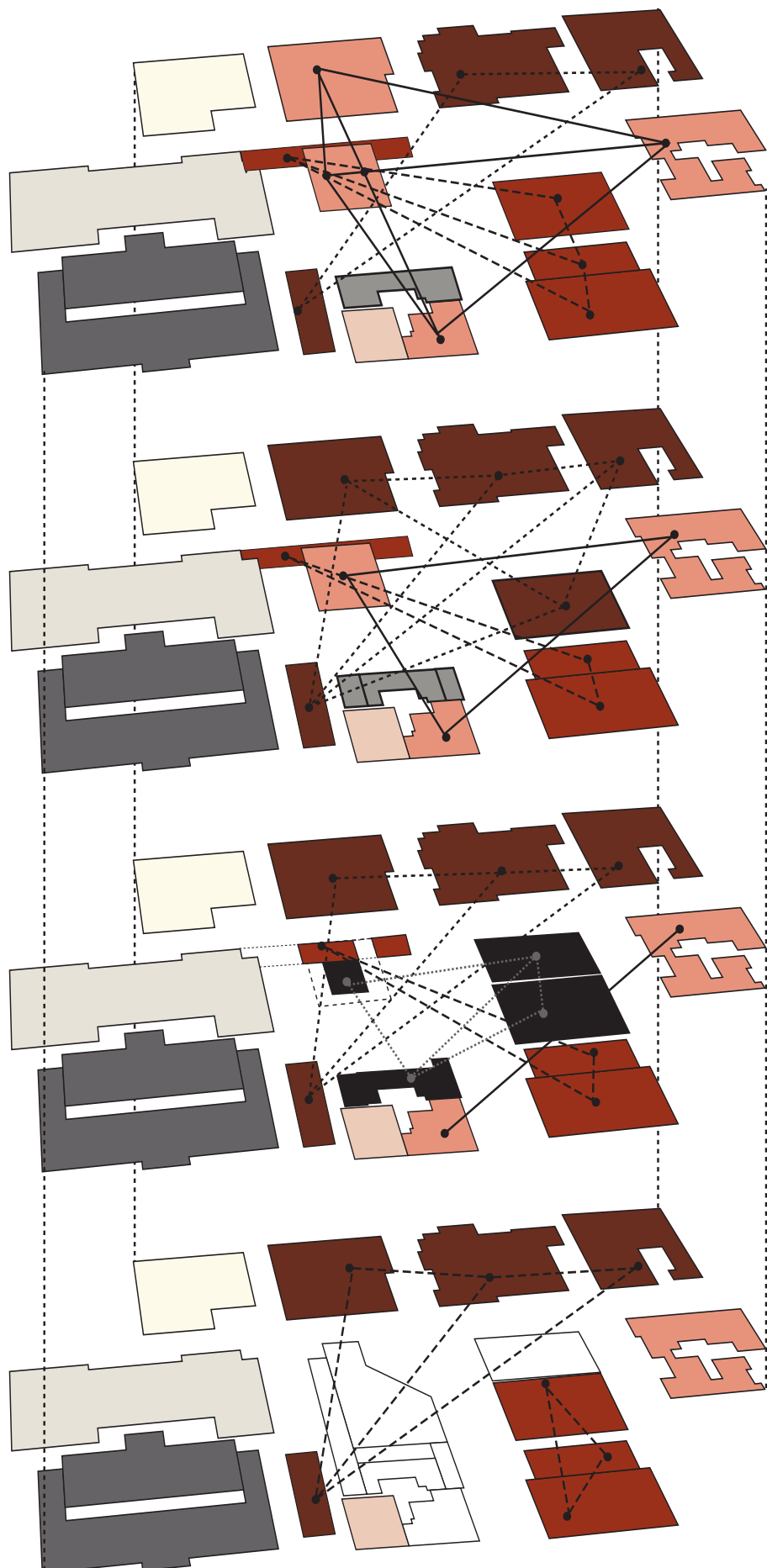
Space relationships after conference facilities is removed

Space relationships after sunken plaza is opened and market established

Existing space relationships

Fig. 104 <Street> New Relationships between Street and Building





University of Pretoria etd – Kirkman, D A (2005)

- Retail
- Offices
- Residential
- Vacant

Relationships on a high-rise level

Relationships above ground level

Relationships on ground level

Current relationships

Fig. 105 <House> Relationships between 'Houses'

- Retail
- Offices
- Residential
- Vacant

Relationship between buildings and between public space

Desired building occupation

Public space intervention

Current buildings, and pert thereof, that are in use.

Fig. 106 <House> Effect of Public Space on Relationships between 'Houses'

