

The Elements of townscape organization

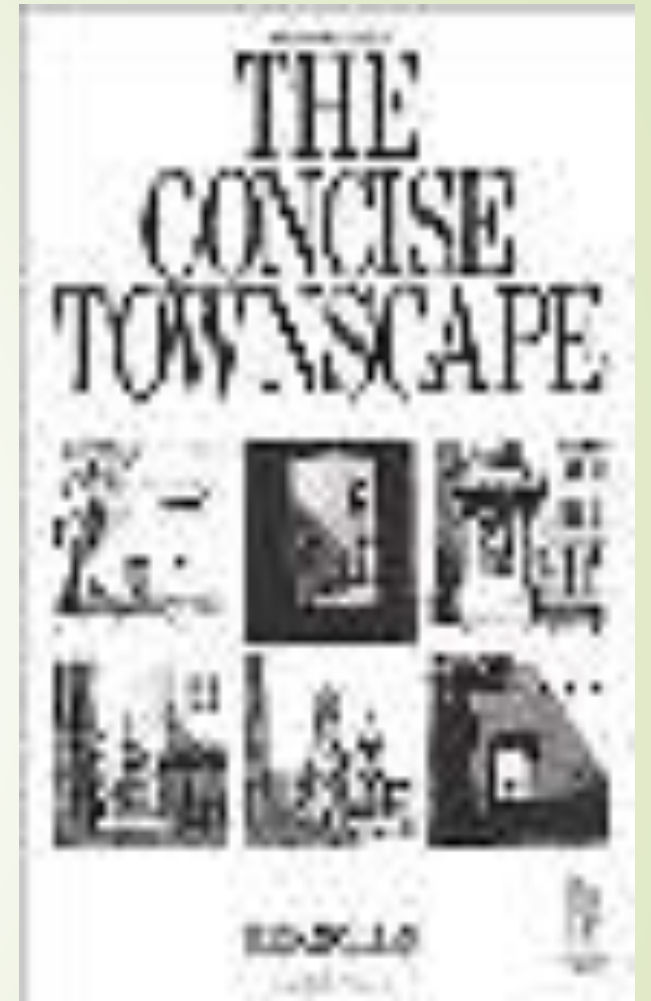
the visual appearance of a town or urban area; an urban landscape.



Prepared by : the staff of urban design

The Concise Townscape

- ▶ Its concepts were first developed by Gordon Cullen in The Architectural Review
- ▶ The concepts were later embodied in the **book TOWNSCAPE** (1961) which instantly established itself as a major influence on architects, planners and others concerned with what cities should look like.



Landscape: all the visible features of an area of land, often considered in terms of their aesthetic attraction.

Townscape Definition: Gordon Cullen

- **'Townscape'** is the art of giving visual coherence and organization to the mix of buildings, streets and space that make up the urban environment.
- It has been a major influence on architects, planners and others concerned with what cities should look like.
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- According to Gordon Cullen Townscape is a visual art contained in the arrangement of buildings, roads, trees, nature and urban environment that decorate the space.
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- The townscape is one way that can be used in terms of physical visual to recognize the physical form of a city.
- The townscape can also be identified by the shape of arrangement that is by the design of buildings and roads that creates various emotional levels to the observer.

Importance of Townscape

- Townscape concept is the basis for Architect, Planners and those who pay attention to the Appearance of the city.
- Physical form of urban space influenced and determined by the shape and mass of the building.
- The linkage is recognized and understood **psychologically and physically** by the **observer** as well as the **physical form** of urban space and the shape of the building mass.
- In addition, the relationship can also be seen **visually** on the **quality of a city** is determined by the shape and size of the shape and arrangement of urban space.

➤ **Townscape OR (Urban scene) definitions:**

➤ Researcher (Ward, 1968) defined townscape as:



❖ Organizing elements of the physical environment in the city, which is crystallized urban and sensory integrated relationships between elements. Gives an identity and the city's distinctive urban character.

➤ Researcher (**Eames, 1977**) townscape that:

❖ All the shows of the city, meets the eye, and aware of sensations, and interact with him in the urban areas through the sense of unity (sense of unity) and place (sense of place) and the human experience (sense of experience) through several concepts and sensory integration, organization and visual

➤ In (**Megerson**) view the townscape is :

❖ The visual impression of all elements of the city and its components, as affected by a variety of fixed and variable factors that affect the entity of the city.

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- While **(Young, 1977)** Defined the urban scene as:
 - ❖ The scene that contains buildings, trees, gardens, sky, water, colors, buildings, surfaces and flooring, is the phenomenon of three-dimensional surrounding us when we move through it .
 - As the **researcher (Sbarp, 1967)**
 - ❖ Variables that were conducted on the structure of the city because of social factors or economic factors ...And that influenced the formation of structure in the city and down to the reasons that led to distort townscape.
 - In the opinion of the **researcher (Smith, 1977)**
 - ❖ The townscape of the city : represents one of the orientations of urban design, which works to create a visual relations (space -spatial) between the characteristics of the vocabulary component of the urban environment and organization of a structural frame and up to the dramatic vision of the components of the urban areas.

the organization of the **urban townscape** aims to:

- ▶ 1. **Maintain the urban areas interrelated**, that reflect the personality of the urban townscape identity, through the physical and cognitive organization of its components and its impacts on relationships.
- ▶ 2. **Achieve a degree of variation in the relations** between the components of the urban townscape with multiple formats.
- ▶ 3. **Attempt to enrich the content of the urban scene** through different treatments in scale , details, style, color, texture, while maintaining the unity and harmony of the urban townscape.
- ▶ 4. **Enhance the privacy of the urban townscape** through new ways to achieve that.

The traditional townscape has the following characteristics:

- Coherent (clear and comprehensive) visual sequence.
- Richness in terms of scale, type, details.
- Good combination between dynamic and static spaces.



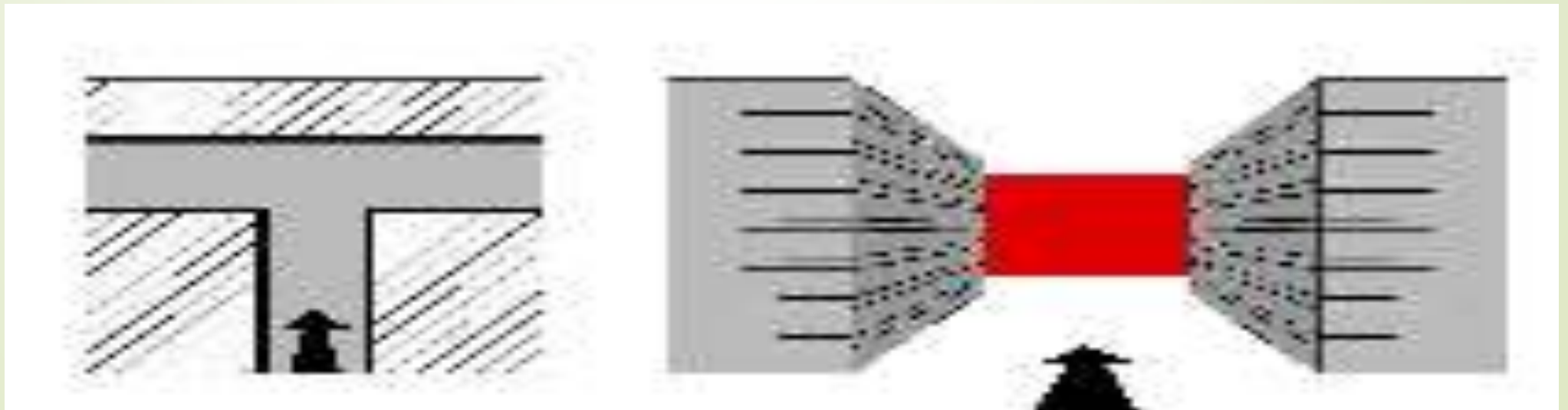
Townscape elements

- **1. Junctions** (T Junction, Y Junction, X Junction)
- **2. Route line** (Angles, Level Change)
- **3. Route width** (Widening, Narrowing, Funneling, Wings)
- **4. Edges** (Chasm, Porch, Overhang, Arch, Going through, Corners, Doorway Space, Deck, Hollowness or niche)
- **5. Space containment** (Enclosure, Closure, Dead end)
- **6. Features** (Hinting, Enticing, Framing, Vista, Incident, Punctuation).

1. Junctions

➤ T Junction:

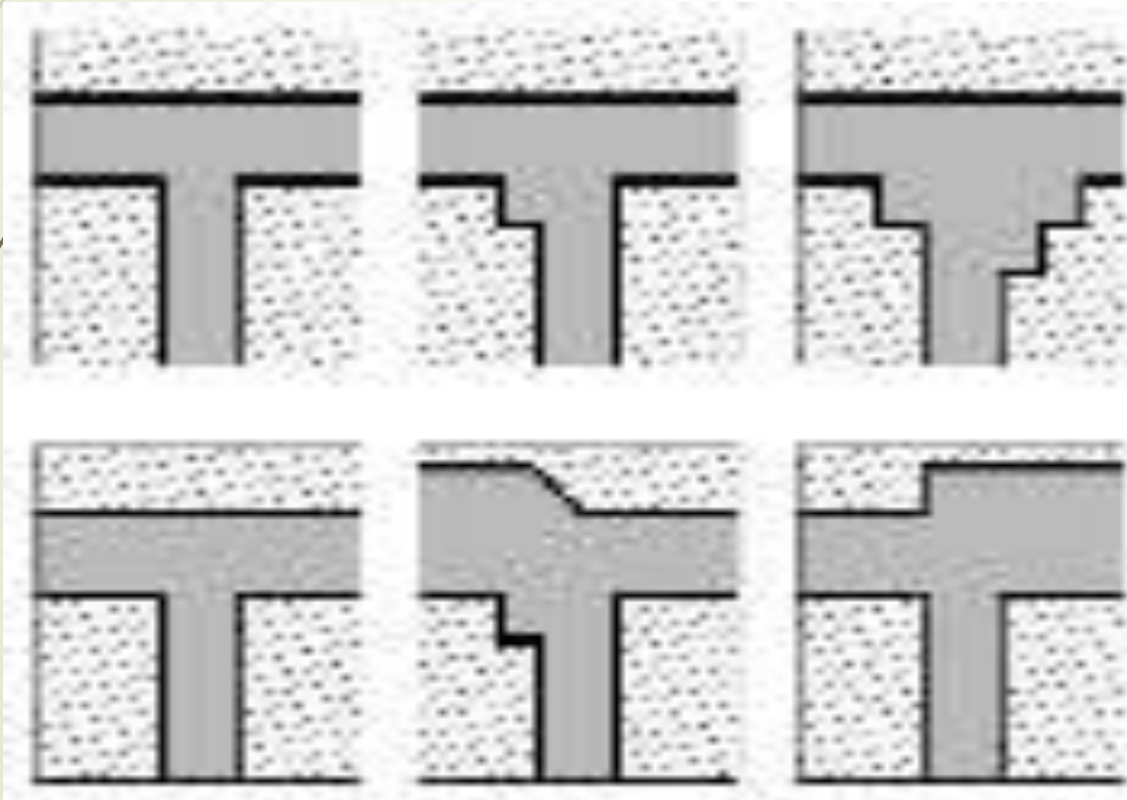
- •It encloses the sight in a classical way In organizing the enclosure.
- •It closes the perspective which results in creating the sense of place.
- •Its sudden
- •It provides the user with two opposite directions
- •In the junction place can be noticed: same proportion, richness and continues space or the optional routs.



1. Junctions

► T Junction:

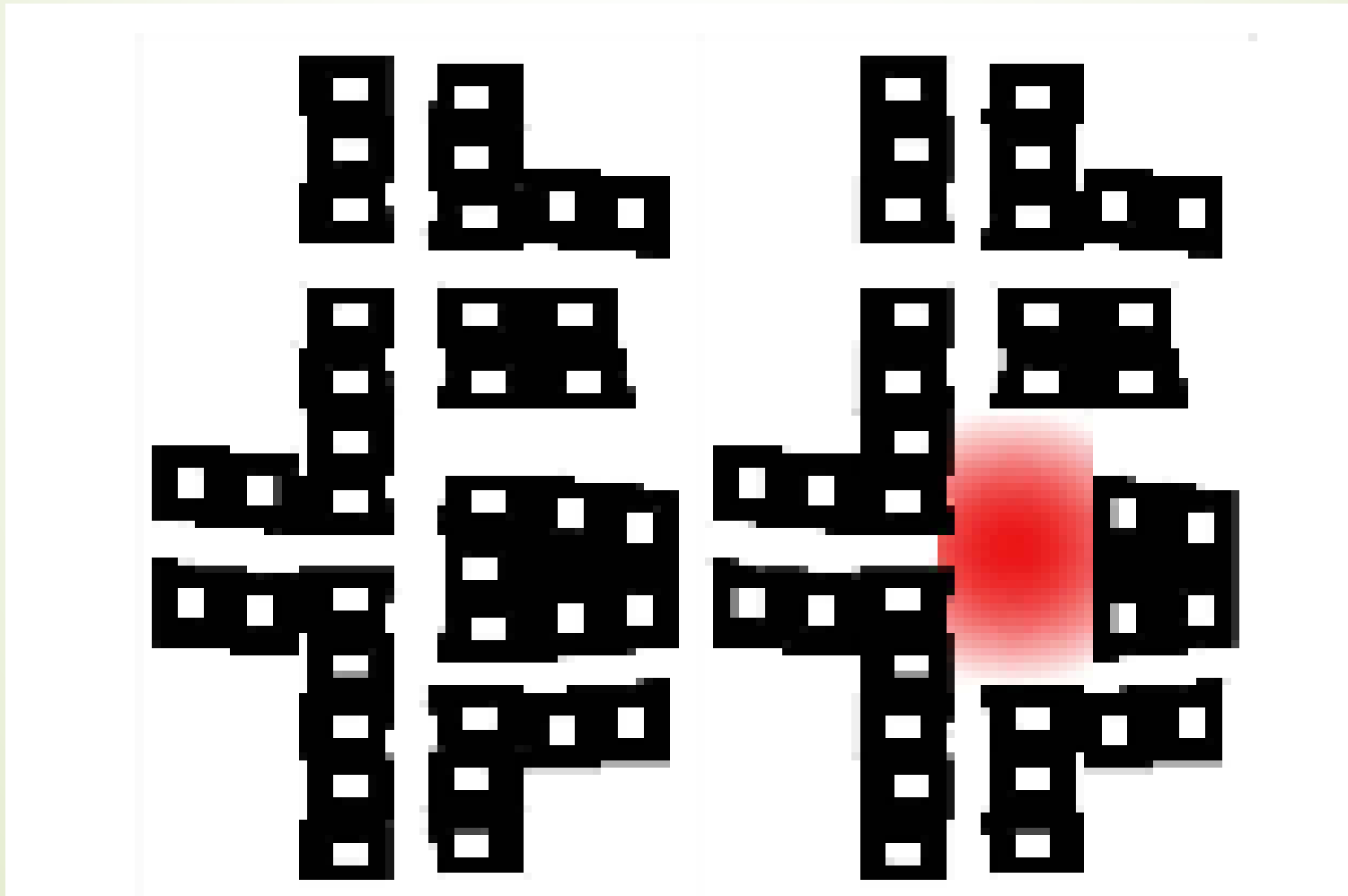
- To enhancing diversity in sight and attracting different activities in the joint place:
- Change in the width of route.
- Special treat for corners.
- Encouraging peoples movement and control it.



1. Junctions

► T Junction:

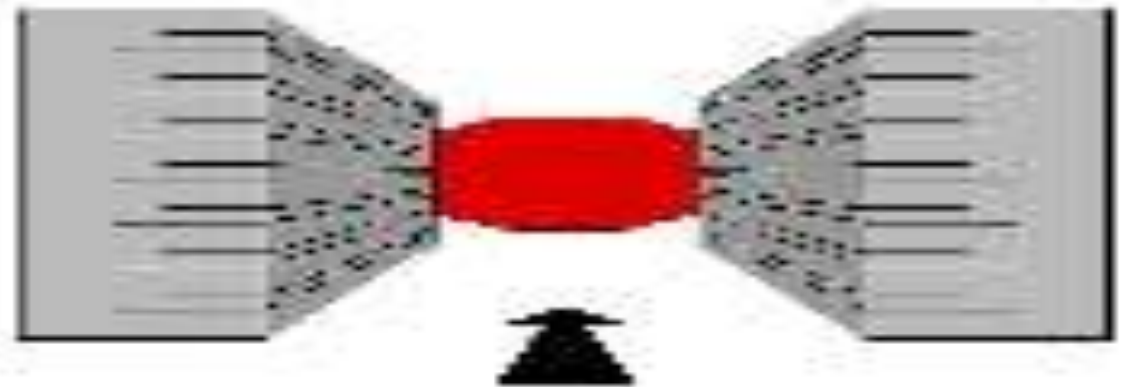
- By removing one of the routes and corner best treatments to provide a central space with a clear directions



1. Junctions

➤ Y Junction:

- It offers two very clear optional routes, it can be noticed before getting the joint which creates gradual attractiveness and discovery.
- This routes do not provide continuity for one space like in the T junction
- It takes two different spaces in privacy, proportion and scale.
- The building in the corner in front of the main route considered as the distinctive element which holds the main characteristic of the junction and directing the other routes.
- In the junction place can be noticed: same proportion, riches and continues space or the optional routes.



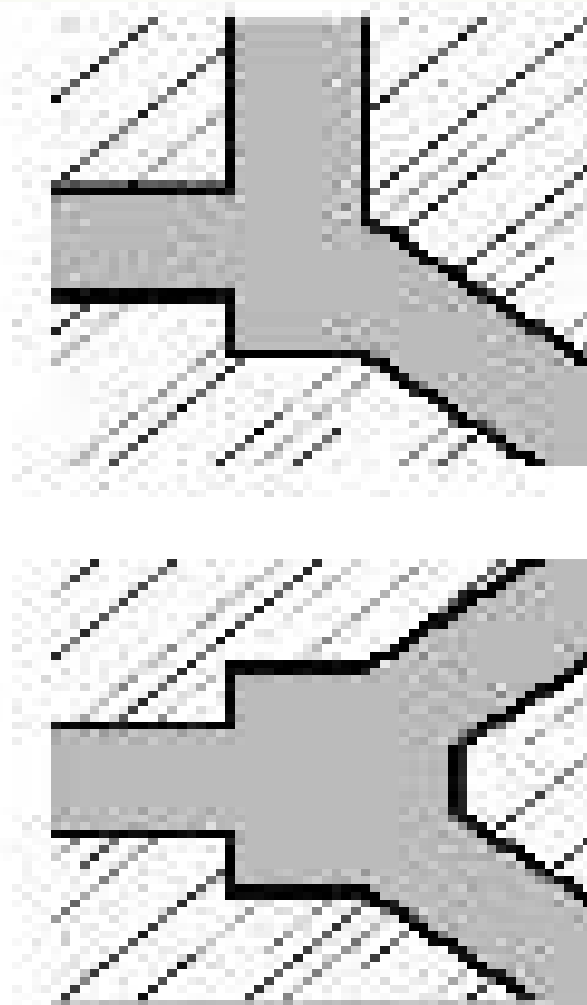
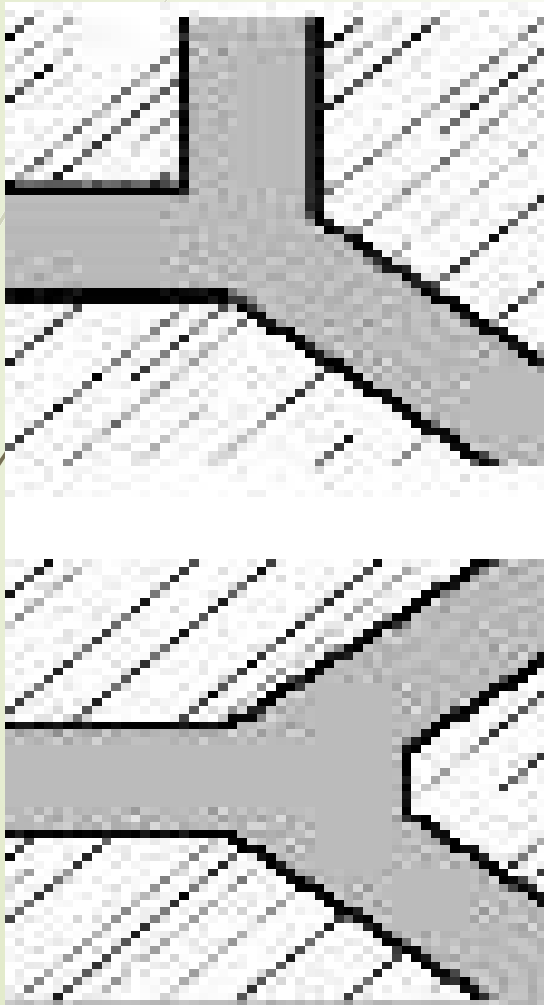
1. Junctions

- **Y Junction:**
- The building in the corner in front of the main route considered as the distinctive element which holds the main characteristic of the junction and directing the other routes.



➤ Y Junction:

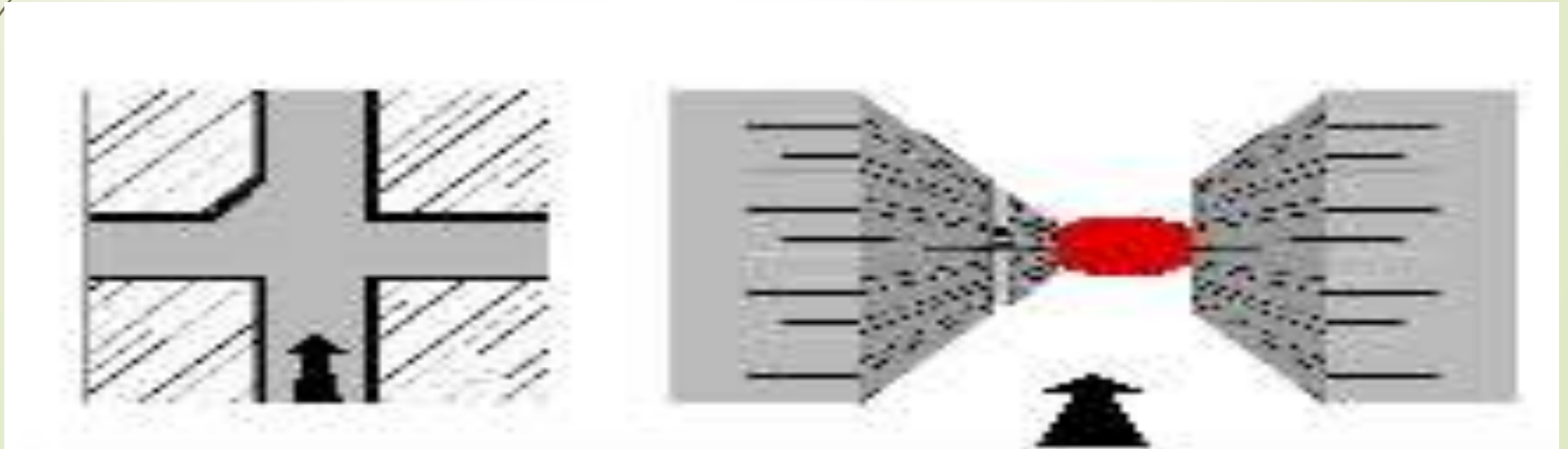
- Design of the corner, unique treatment and the width of the route affects the privacy, space existence and level of activates.



➤ 1. Junctions

➤ X Junction:

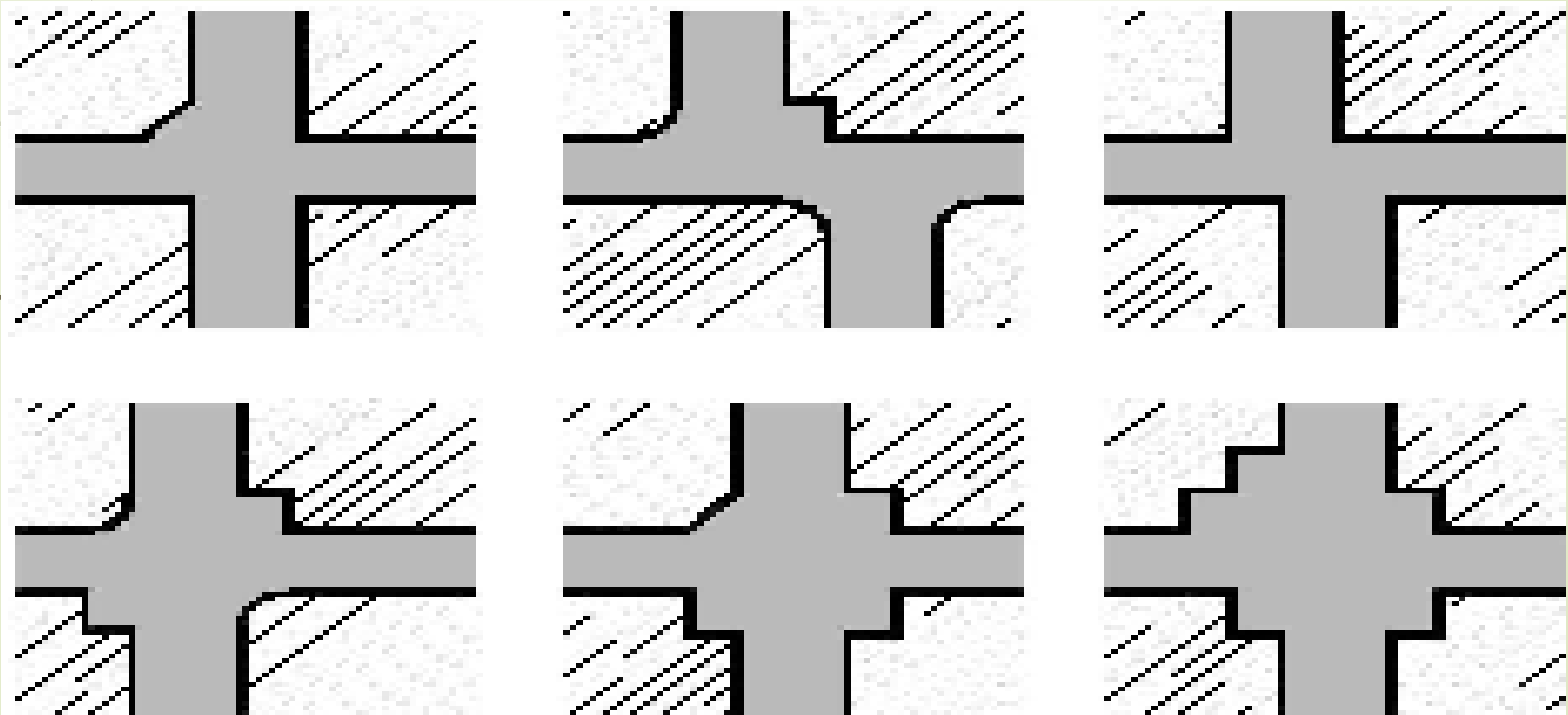
- It creates unstable space characterized by the four directions which results in confusion for the user .
- It closes the perspective which results in creating the sense of place.
- Its sudden
- It provides the user with two opposite directions
- In the junction place can be noticed: same proportion, prosperities and continues space or the optional routs.



1. Junctions

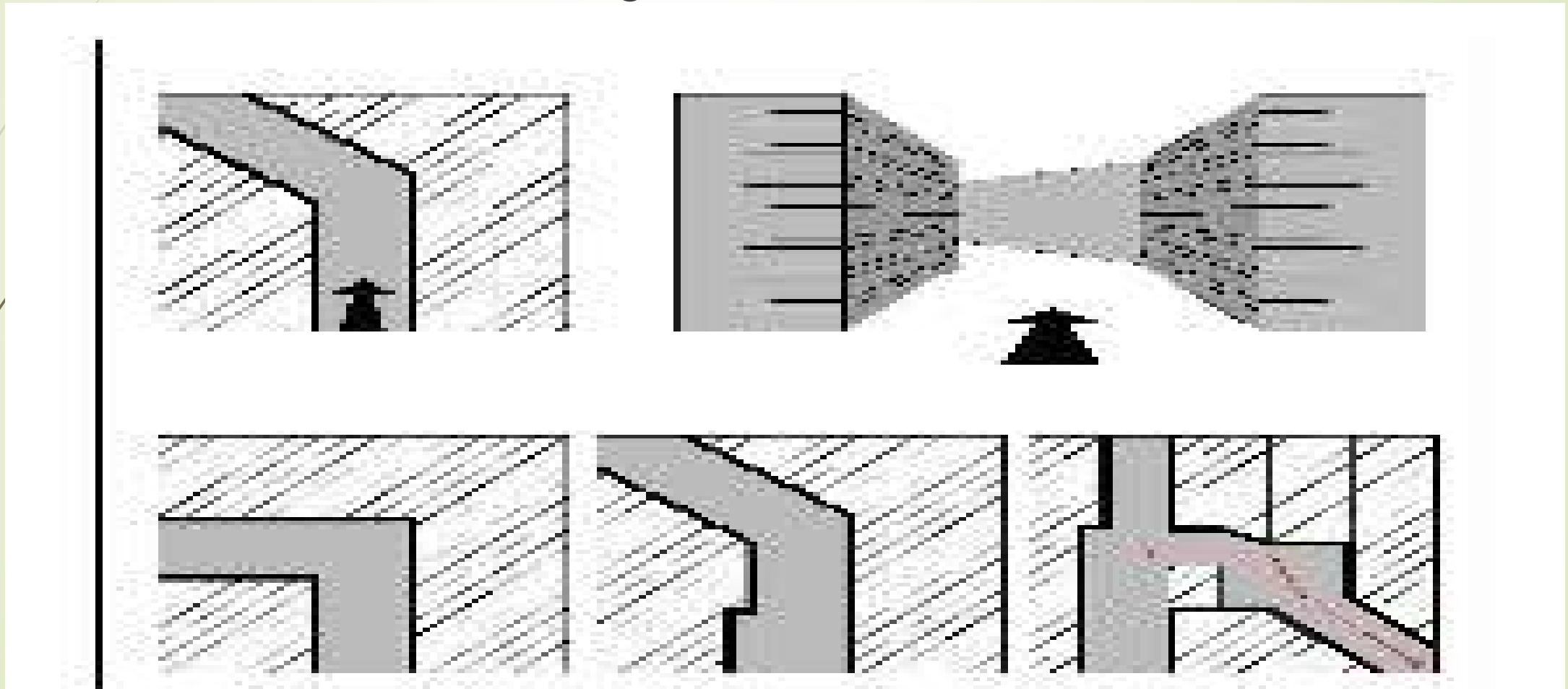
➤ X Junction:

- Design of the corner, unique treatment and the width of the route affects the privacy, space existence and level of activates.



2. Route Line

- Angles (bent axis):
- Degree of angle plays a significant role in this junction characteristics and user feeling.



2. Route Line

➤ Angles (bent axis):

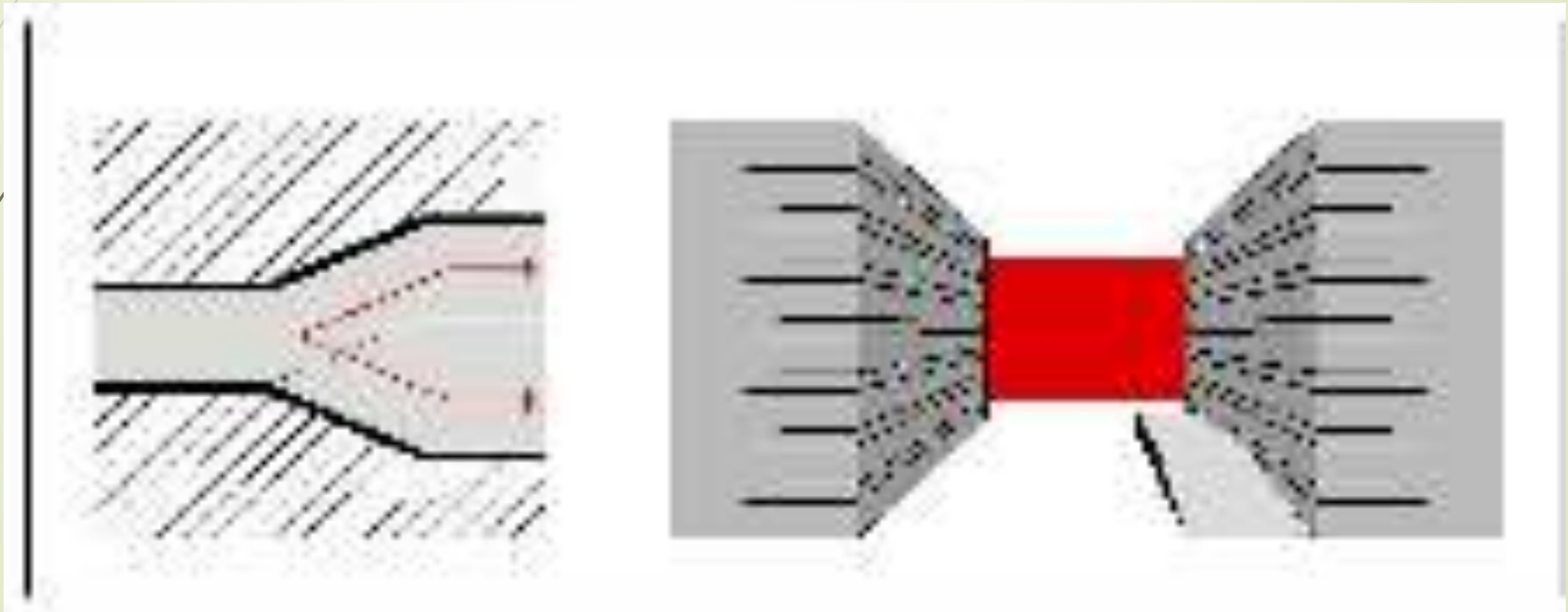
- When the bent angle is small, it keeps the continuity of the sight despite of having buildings at the end of the sight
- It provides privacy in residential area especially if it ends with a dead end



2. Route Line

➤ Level Change:

- Provides a different physical and sensitive activity.
- An emphasizing the idea of changing the level of surprise, expectation, and the idea of contrast between the containment and openness, by enhancing the scale of walls surrounding the track texture and method of curvature.



2. Route Line



Level Change:

3. Route Width

- **Widening:**

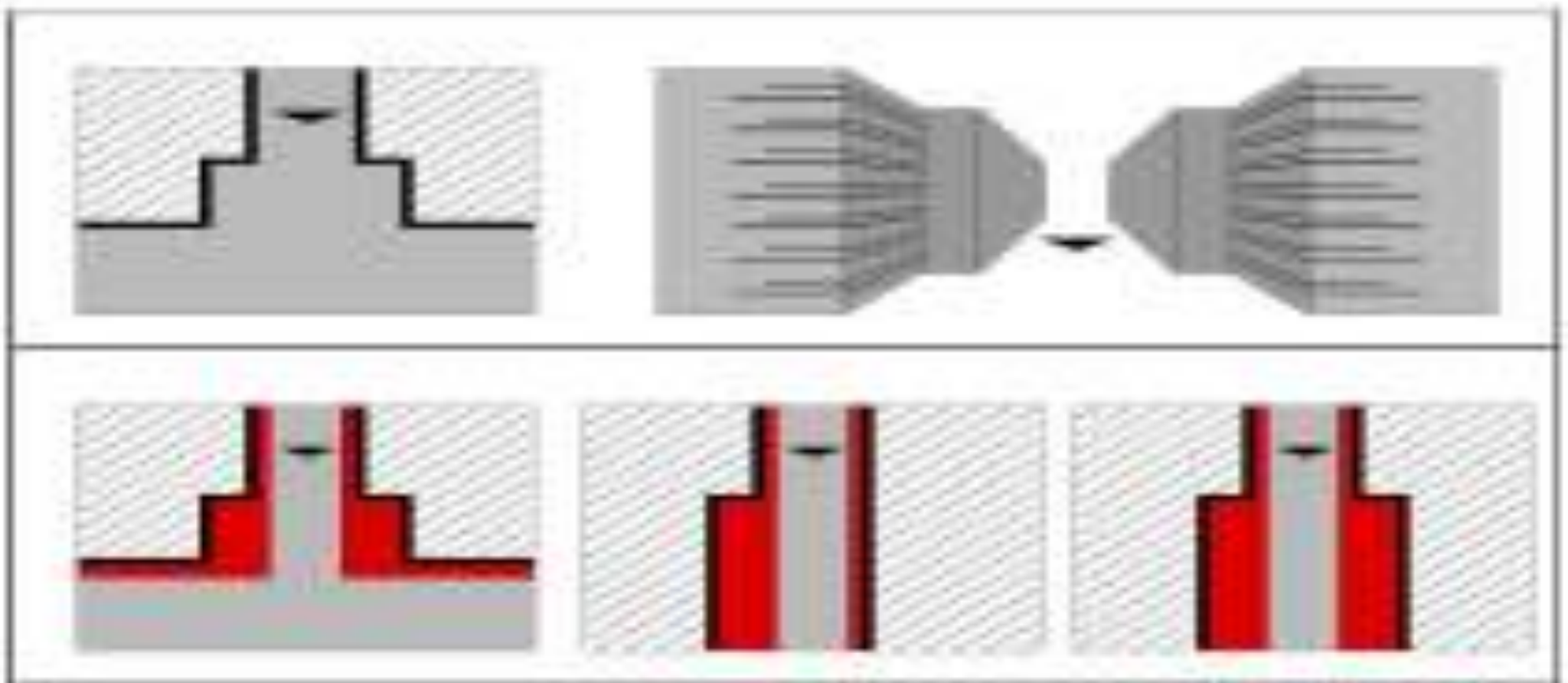
- Change from a narrow space to a wider space gives a sense of going ahead and progress
- In residential area it provides semi-private spaces, which attracts different activities.



3. Route Width

➤ Narrowing:

- Reducing the width of route leads to a greater privacy in semi-private spaces
- By keeping the Krebs line straight after reducing the width of the route an extra space will be provided for pedestrian and commercial activities



3. Route Width

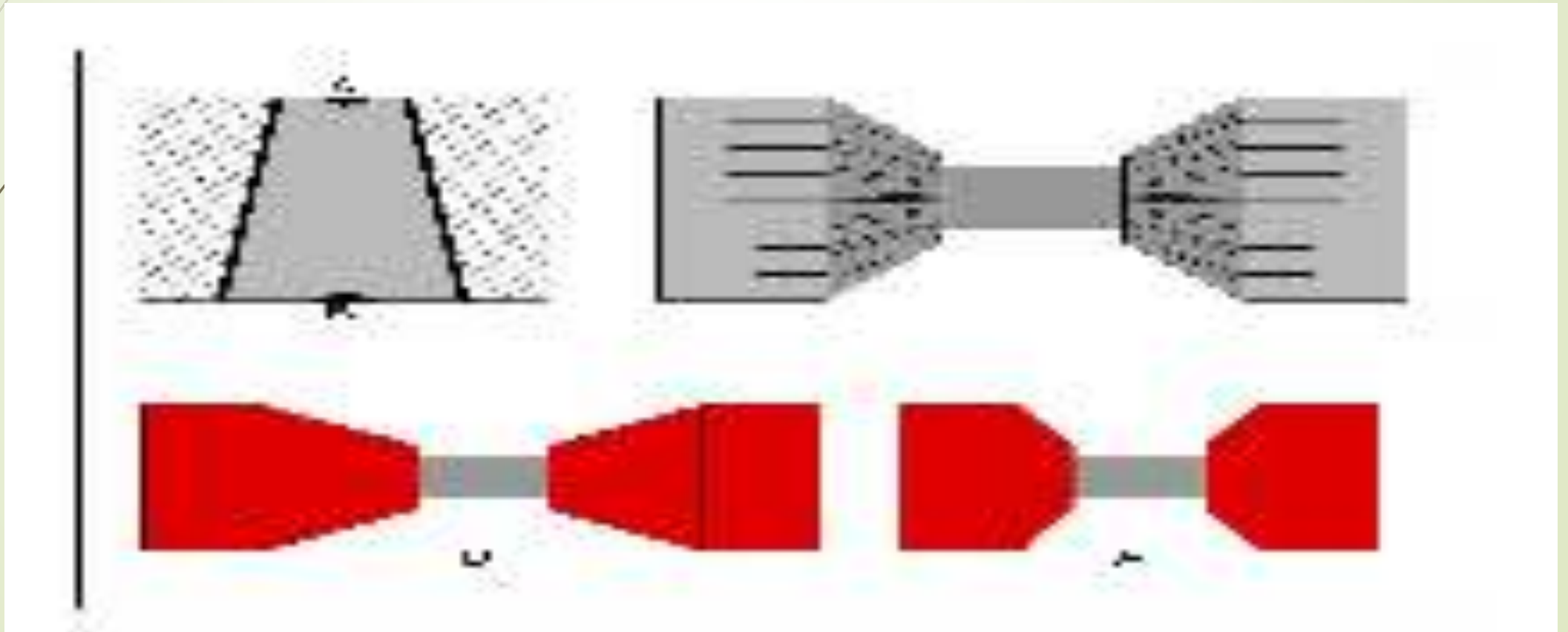
Narrowing:



3. Route Width

► Funneling:

- It has the same effect of gradual change in width of street.
- It has a kind of cheating. When user look at the route from the narrow end it looks longer and vice versa.



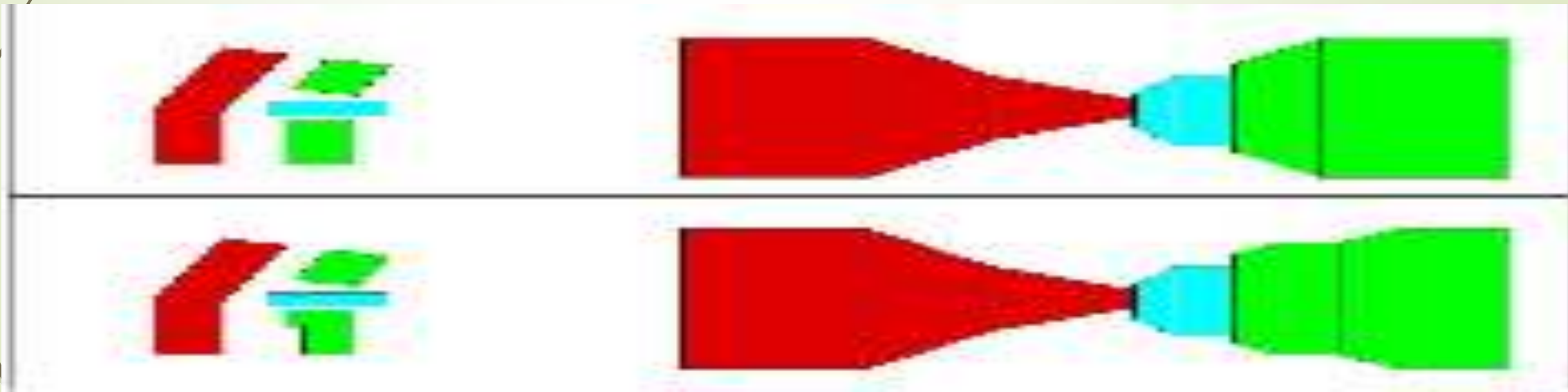
3. Route Width

Funneling:



3. Route Width

- Wings:
- • Locating the buildings in different ways in front of main axis for movement
- • There is a lot of ways to allocate the structures for achieving a particular purpose.
- • It can be used for narrowing the street a bit, or cutting of the sight without stopping the movement or many other reasons
- • Used to achieve narrow simple or creating a visual barrier, which may be gradual series of wings or the emergence of a certain building at different angles and contribute to these projections in the creation of an urban space of interesting



3. Route Width

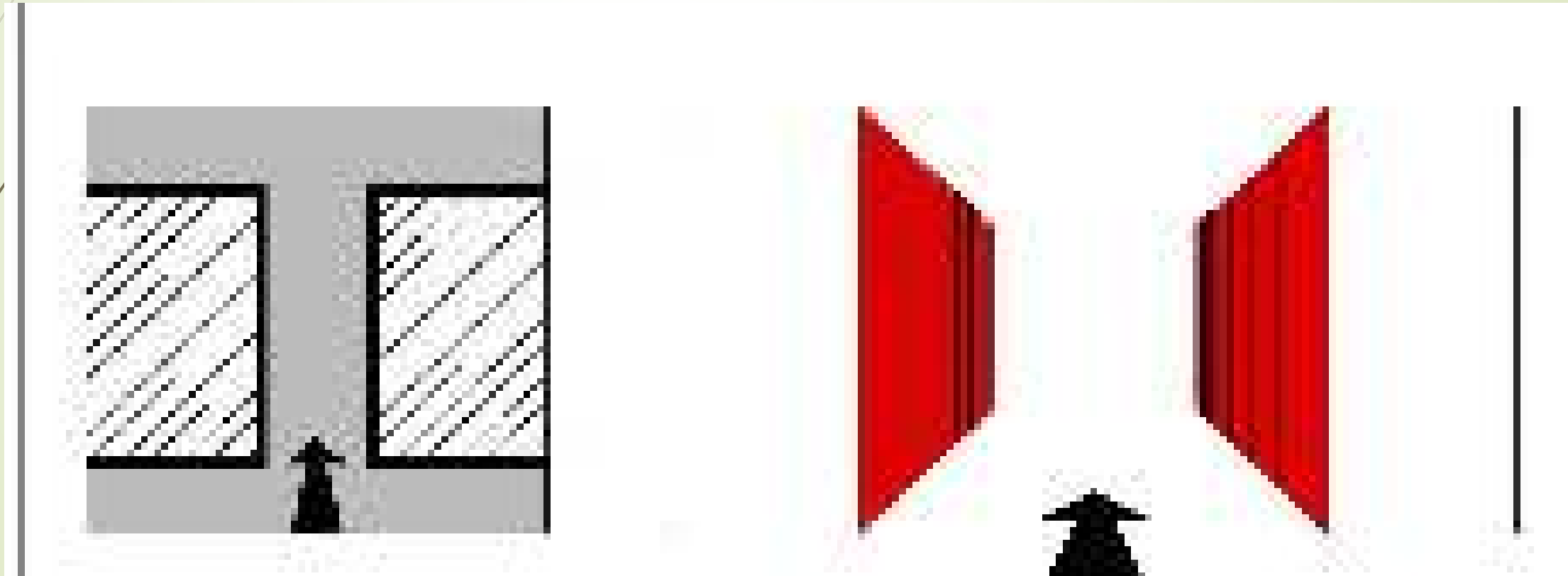
➔ Wings:



4. Edges

➤ The Chasm:

- • Penetrating this kind of spaces gives a scary sense of being in danger, and a comfort sense when the journey finished
- • It used for connecting two spaces with the same importance and but different in function and physical shape



Chasm:

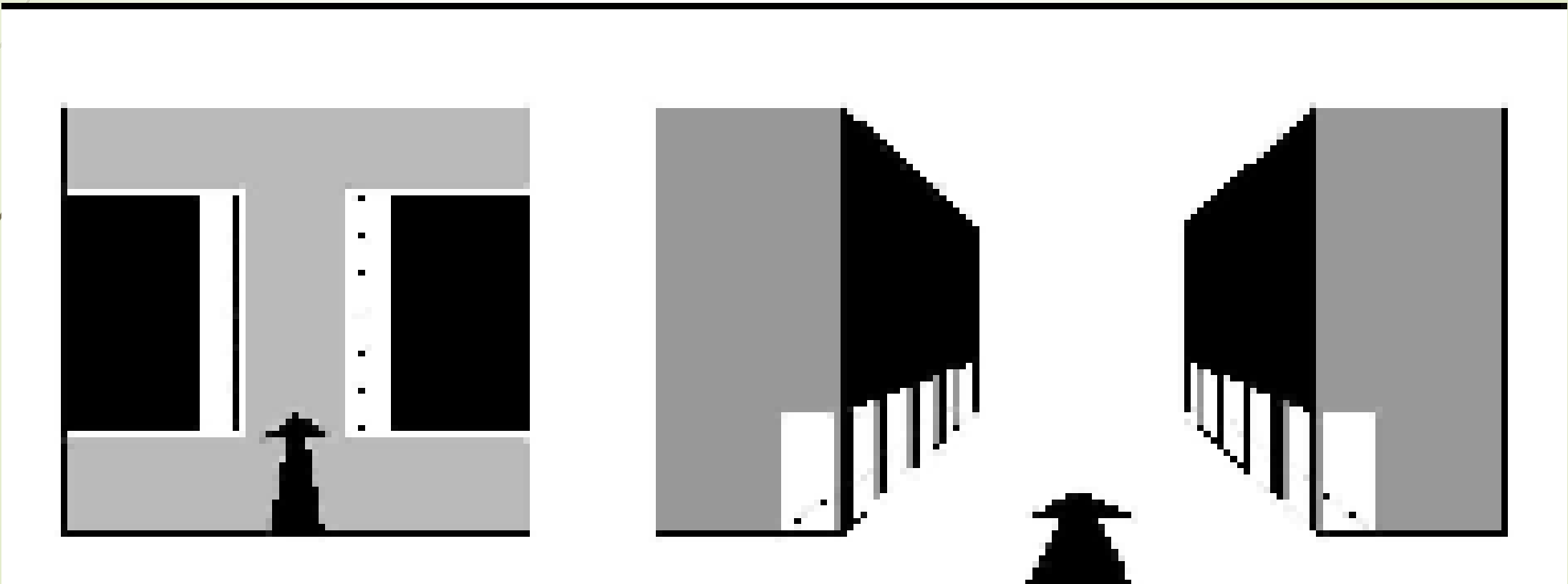
Barcelona city



4. Edges

➤ The Porch:

- Provides an environmental space to protect the pedestrian
- The colonnade gives a sense of being protected from the cars
- Visually it provides vertical lines for the porch which gives a sense of stability



4. Edges

➔ The Porch:



4. Edges

The Porch



4. Edges

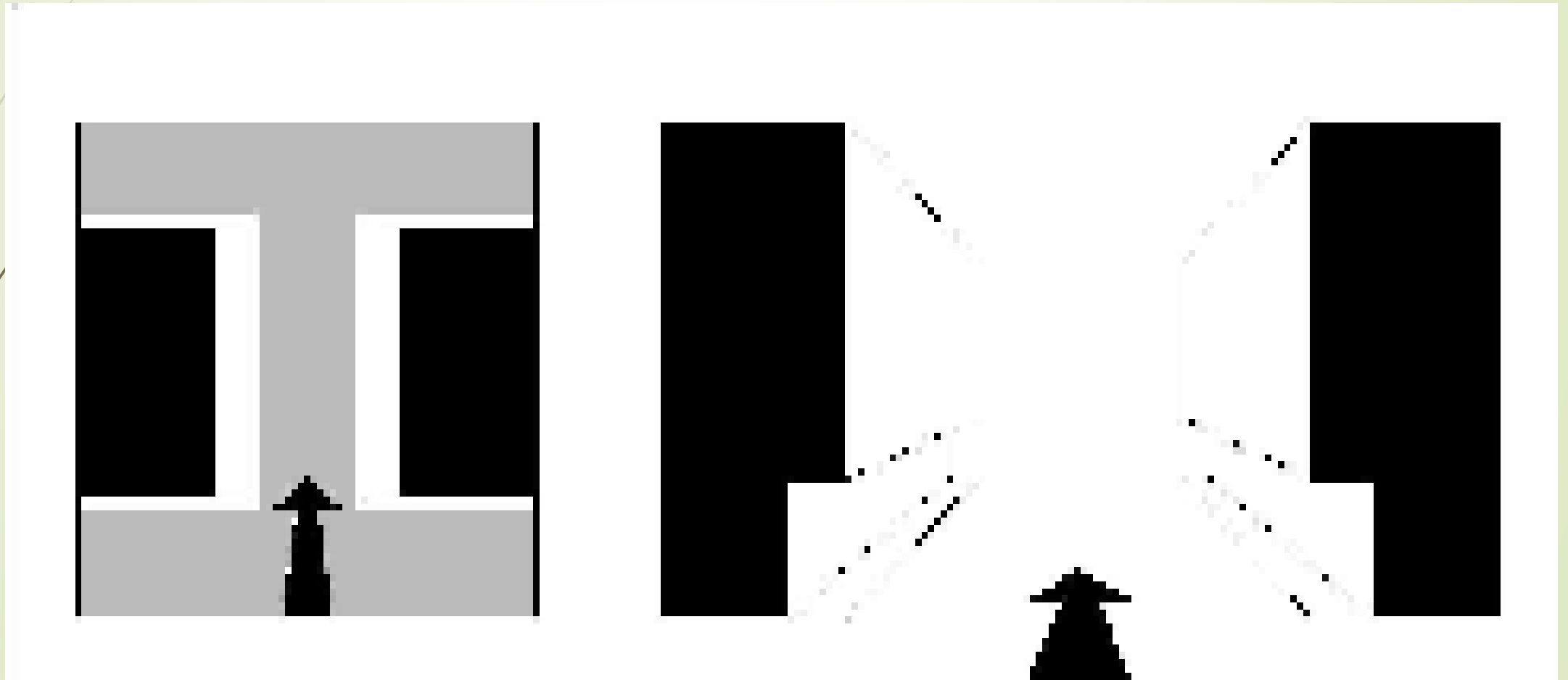
The Porch:



➤ 4. Edges

➤ Overhang:

- • They are the distinct structure hanged and are very clear over the movement axis.
- • It provides different shapes of shades over the axis depending on the hanged elements



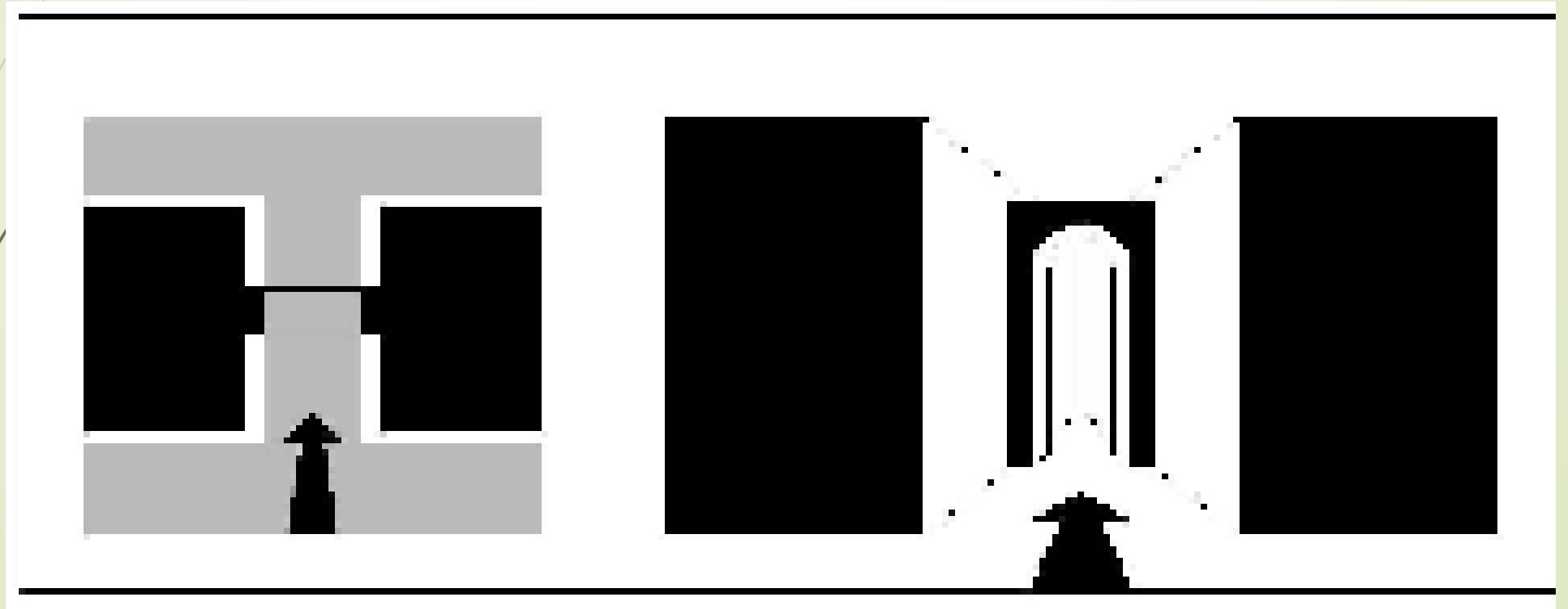
► 4. Edges

► Overhang:



4. Edges

- **The Arch:**
- Arch has been always a sign of an entrance or a sign of entering to another space with no determined end
- Creates the sense of controlling in the space
- Going from a private to a semi-private zone



4. Edges

➤ The Arch:



4. Edges

➤ Going through:

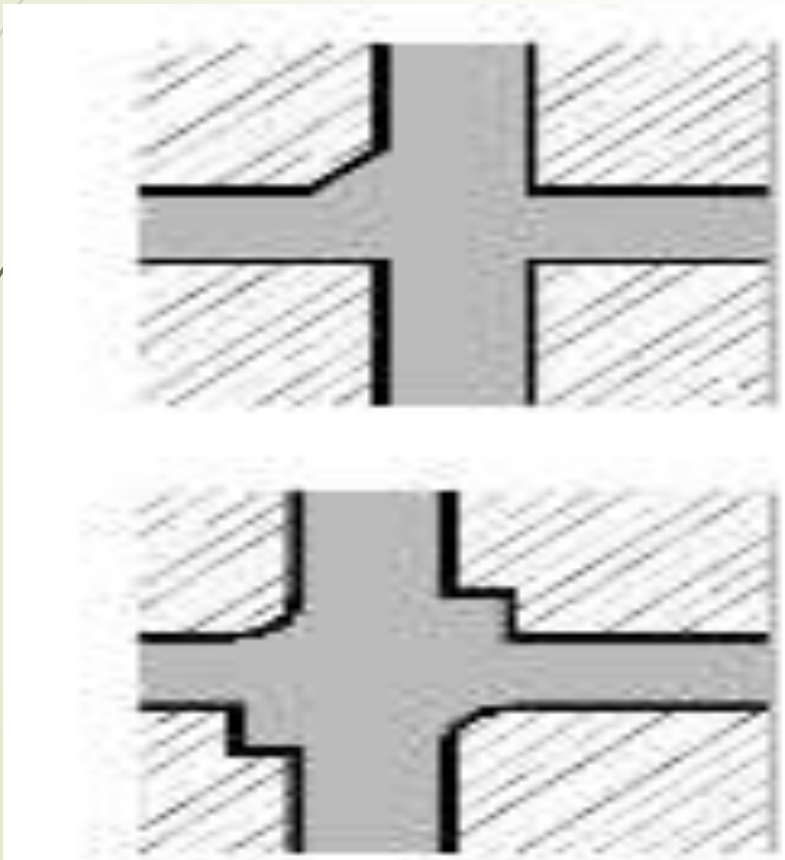
- Extension of a part of upper floor over the road can provide a covered place which let you go through it
- The entrance of the dwelling can be put in this space
- It shows a transit space between two different spaces in terms of privacy



4. Edges

► Corners:

- Special dealing with the corners can be a sign of transition and change in direction
- It attracts different activities



► 4. Edges

► Corners:



➤ 4.

Edges

➤ **Corners:**



➤ 4. Edges

➤ Doorway Space:

- • This element is a sign of privacy and social interaction between the residents



4. Edges

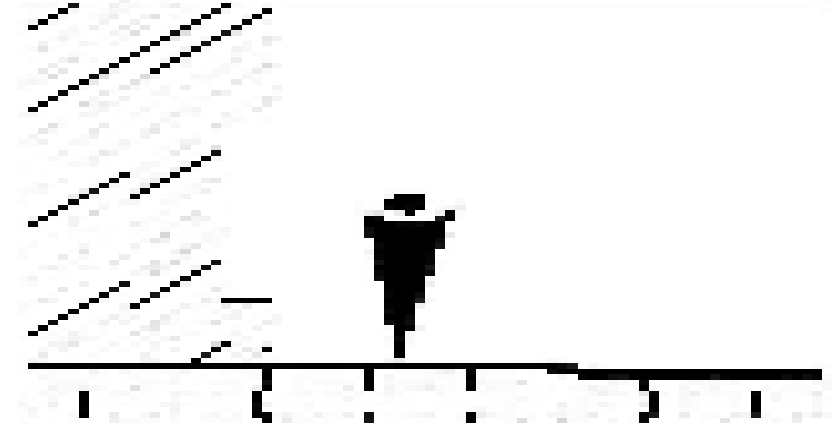
Deck:

enclosed out door
space



4. Edges

- **Hollowness or niche:**
- It can be a place for sitting
- Its not open and not penetrated to the hale wall



4. Edges

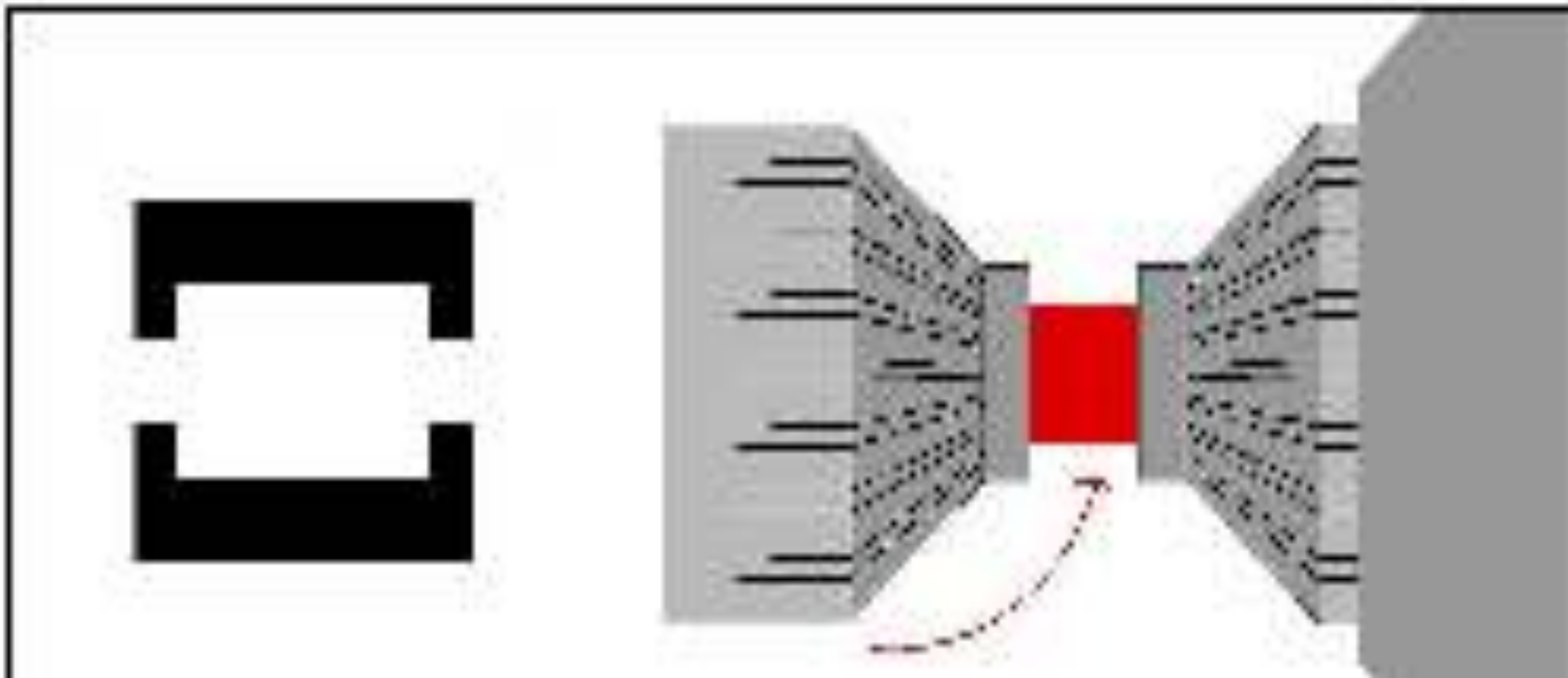
➔ Hollowness or niche:



5. Space Containment

➤ Enclosure:

- It is a steady and stable space
- Increasing the sense of safe and privacy



5. Space Containment

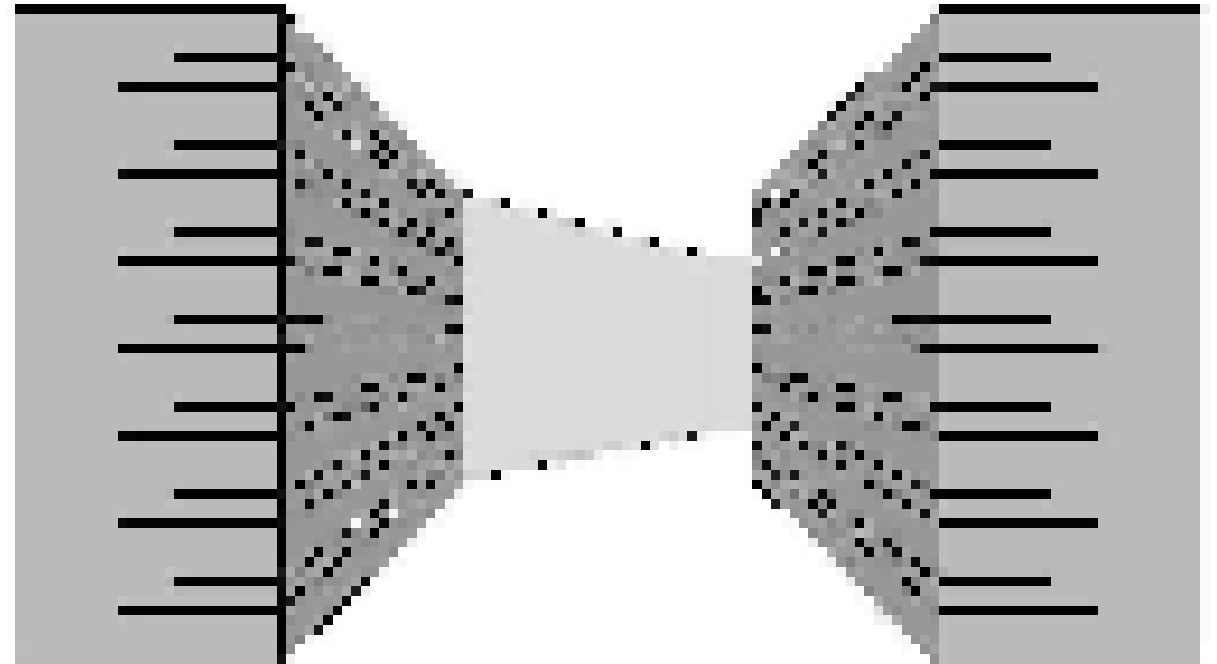
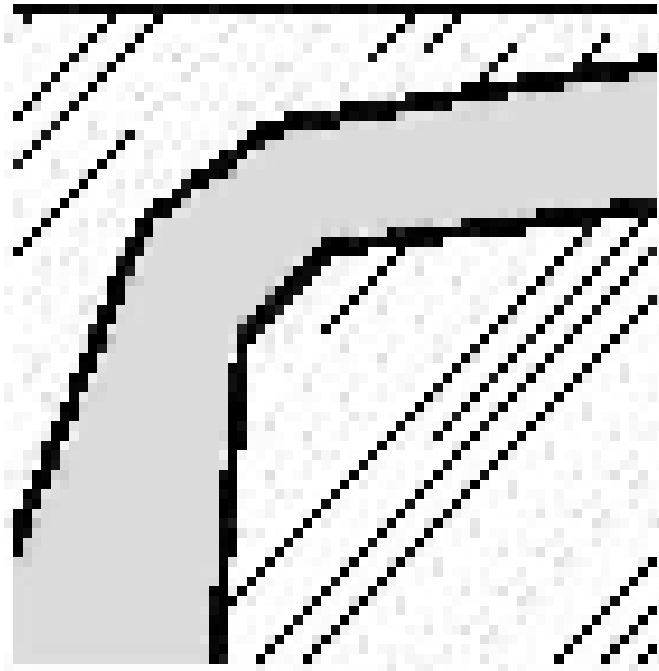
➤ Enclosure:



5. Space Containment

Closure:

- Closing the axis's perspective. Without losing the dynamical characteristic
- It gives the sense of continuity to the movement



5. Space Containment

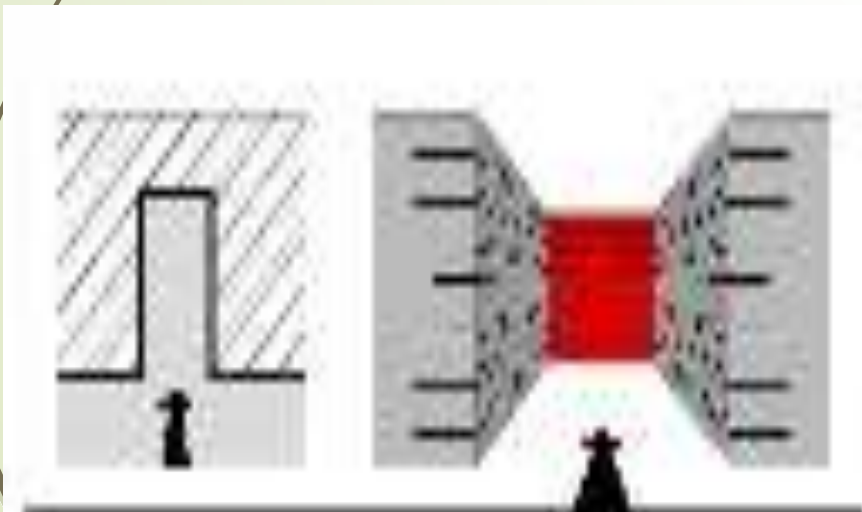
➤ Closure:

- Containment in the motor (closure) highlights the two properties is limited and dynamic space are restricted by the elements and building blocks without losing the sense of communication, respectively, and the dynamics on the motor axis, and becomes the form of a variable space with the movement through it .In the stable containment (enclosure), the space becomes a subject and a finger and is variable with the movement through in terms of the surrounding surfaces with different characteristics balance between stillness and movement.



5. Space Containment

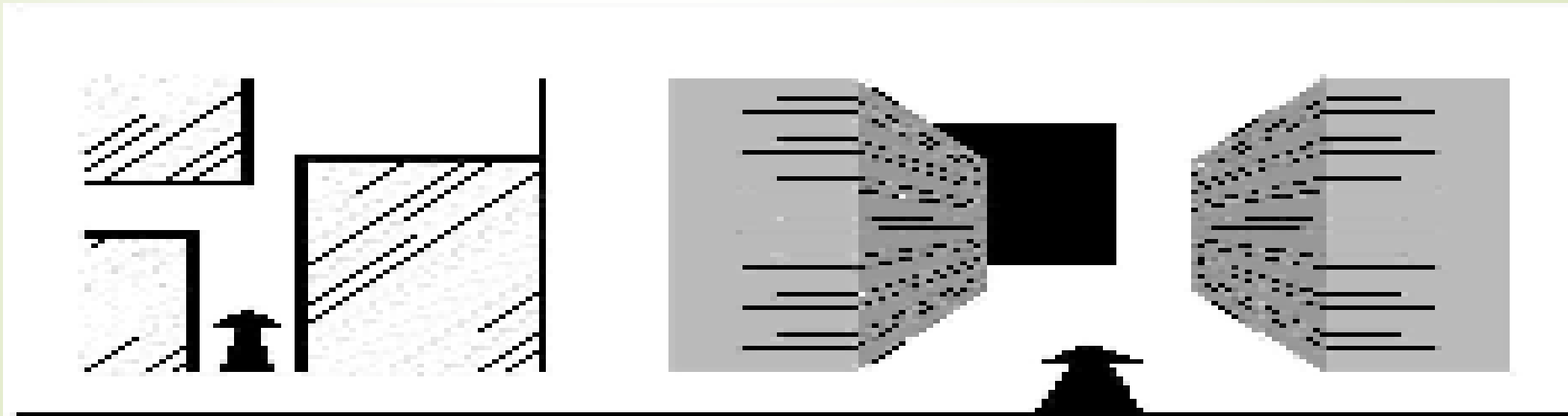
- **Dead End:**
- This type of axis can be used in residential spaces to provide a high privacy.



6. Features

➤ Hinting:

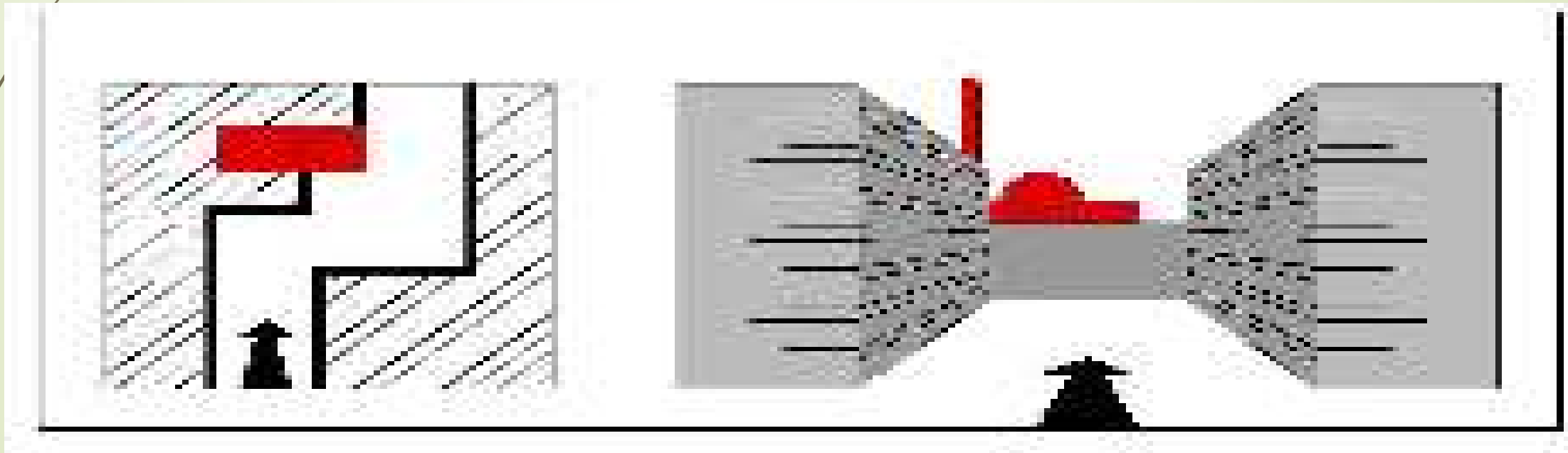
- Reduces the speed of cars by decreasing the clearness of the sight.
- In The hinting feature be continuity visual hint as to the subsequent phases it is not necessary reveal the vision complete as it gets in the relationship visual.
- importance of it in promoting and raising the degree of suspense and exploration of the stage next and give the person a simple over view of the axis the former has its purpose urban strengthening the thrill of exploration and safety.
- Overview and serve to guide the recipient with the proximity of the second phase, the details become clearer and more. It also achieves gradient in the privacy.



6. Features

➤ Enticing:

- It is characterized by the inviting features appearance and disappearance time sat other times through the optical axis vector President to him. Which makes the in continuous state of transformation in the scale and clear the change with the emergence of a new image after the case preceded the disappearance. And attraction and exploration on the property also provides the spatial axes of differentiation, and space sat him while on the move.



6.Features

Enticing:



6.Features

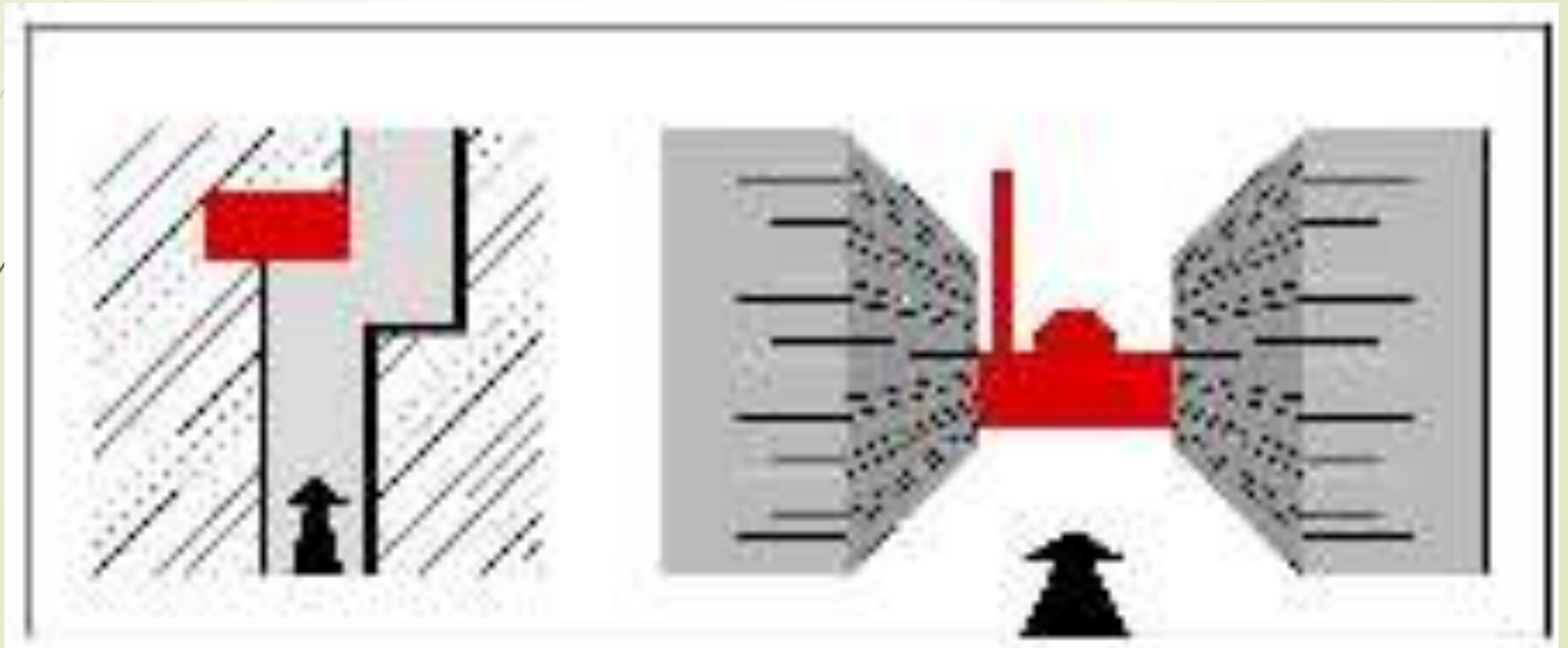
➔ Enticing:



6. Features

Framing:

- Using the same structure which created the axis in framing a special building at the end of the axis



6. Features

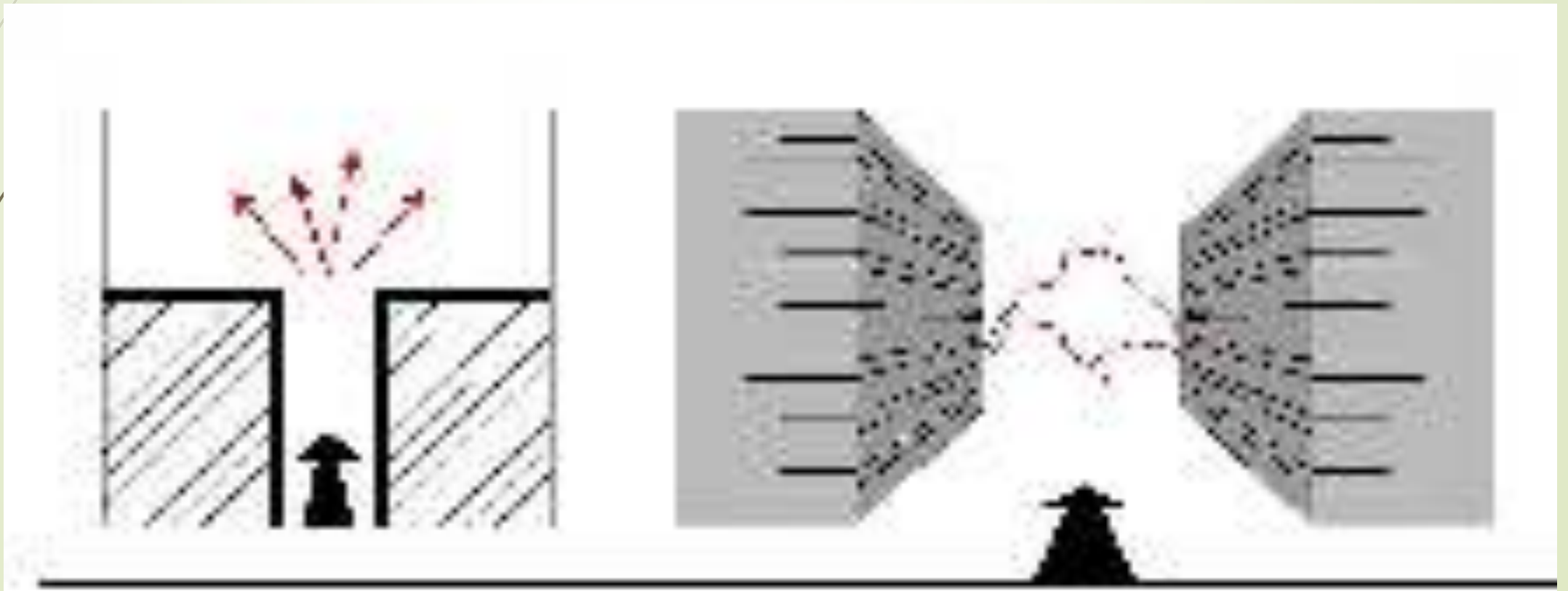
► Framing:



6. Features

Vista:

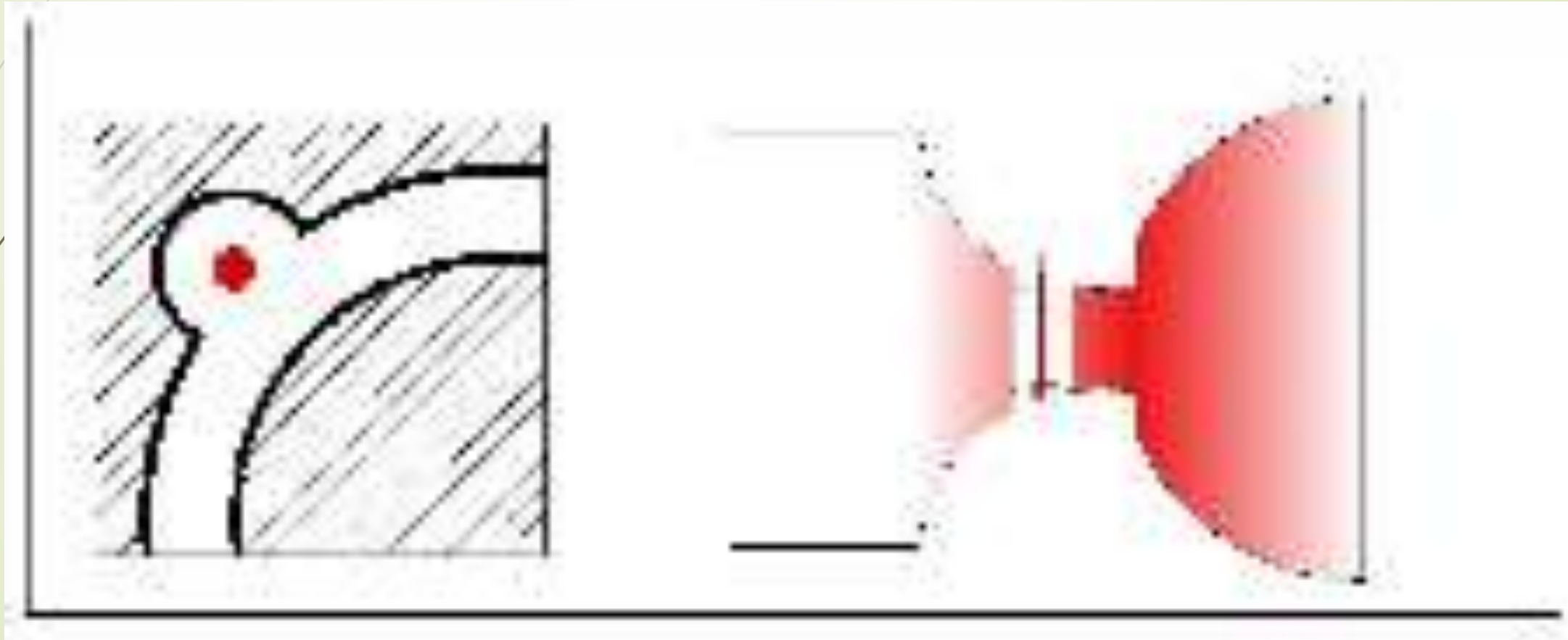
- Which the urbanized space meets the hinterland or suburban in which the axis ends up with a natural space
- It provides sudden changes between physical and natural environment .



6. Features

Incident:

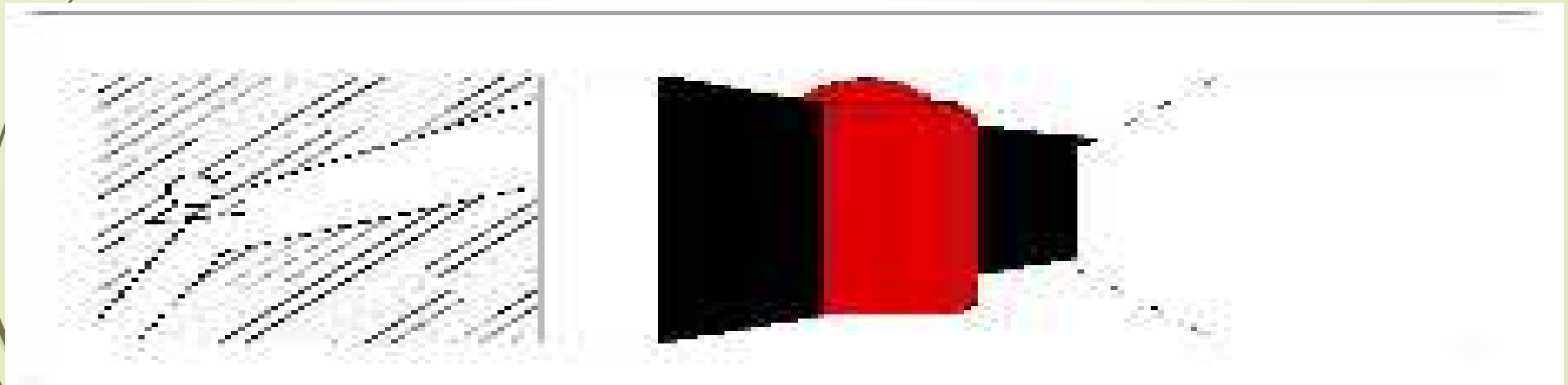
- We can make the route more lively and attractive by giving a special elements or event it will make the focal point in space of route .



6. Features

➤ Punctuation :

- We can separate the spaces along the route into different spaces by using natural structure and elements
- It can be used to reinforce the distinction between the two spaces
- Reflects the feature hinge on the sign signify the end of the space and the beginning of another space and then it is detailed and space transition is designed to isolate the characteristics and change themes on the one hand and increase the level of recognition position of the other hand, can be used when you change the form of space or capacity or change the security level or the degree of privacy, functions or other events or spaces opposite form.





Thank You