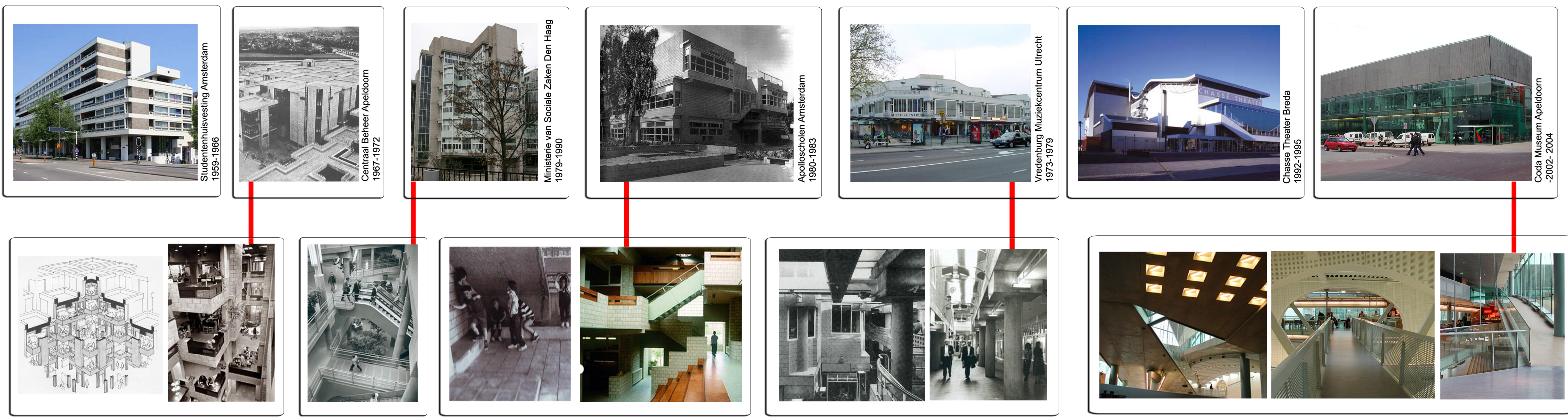


HERMAN HERTZBERGER'S CITY IN THE BUILDING

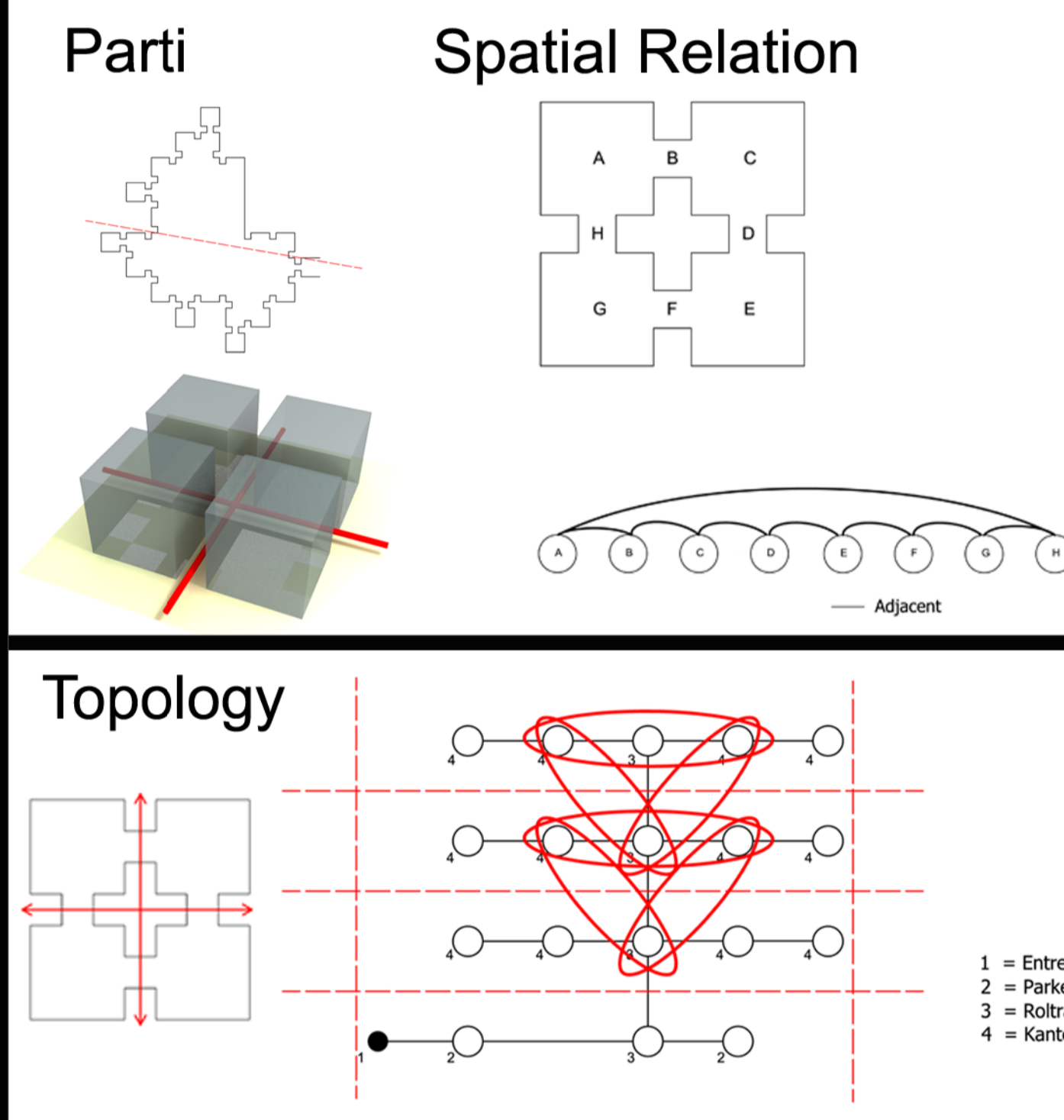
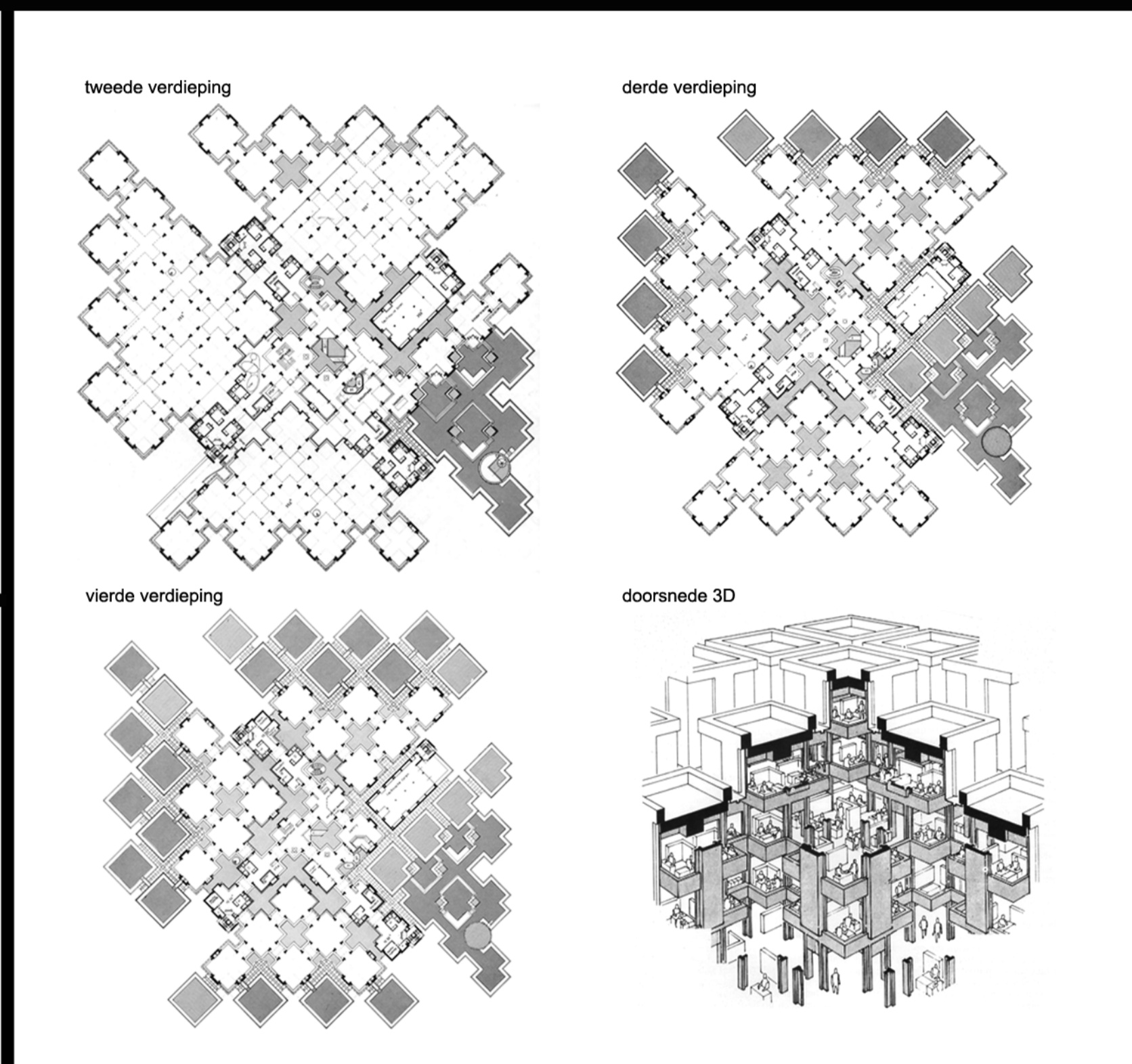
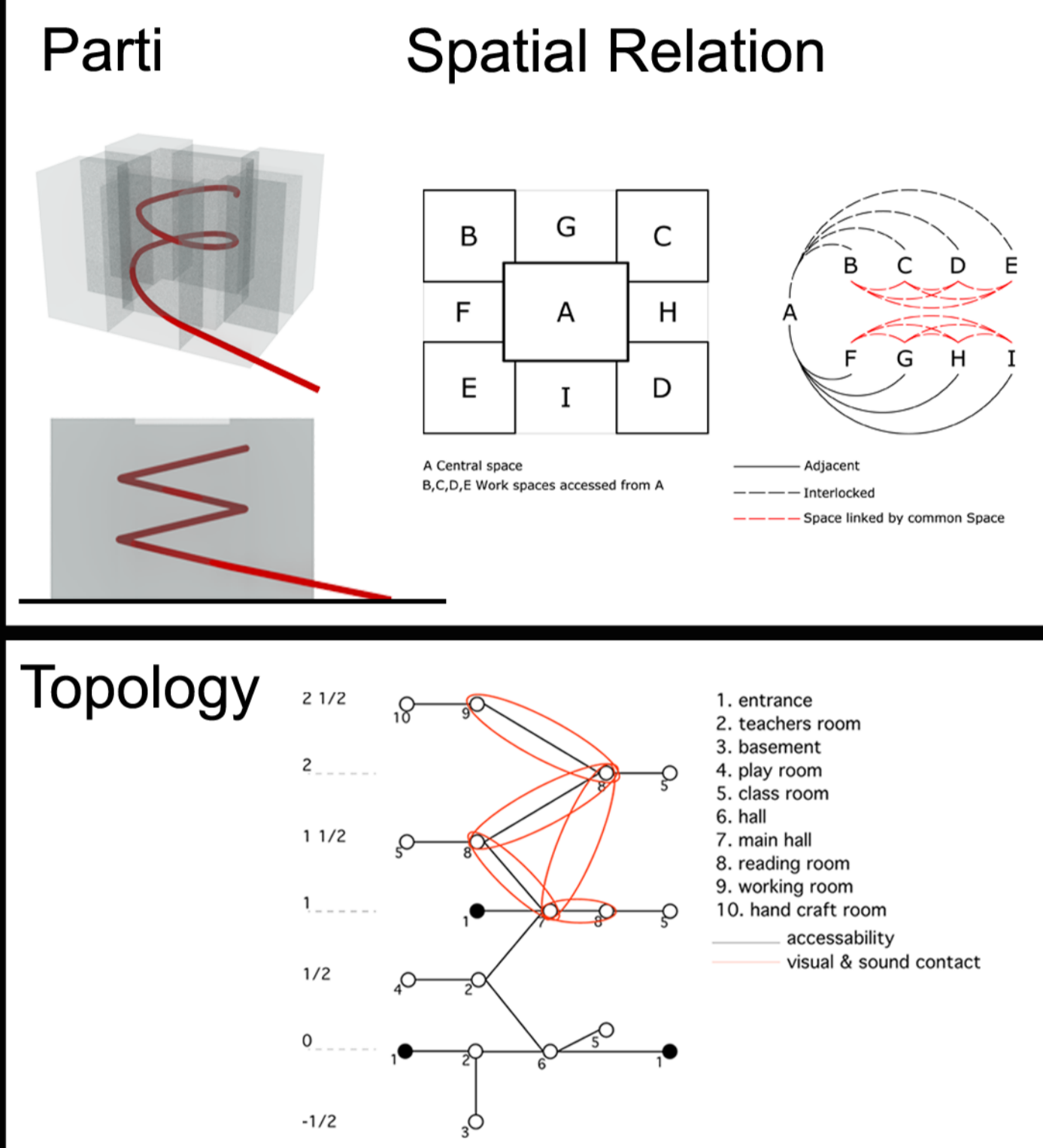
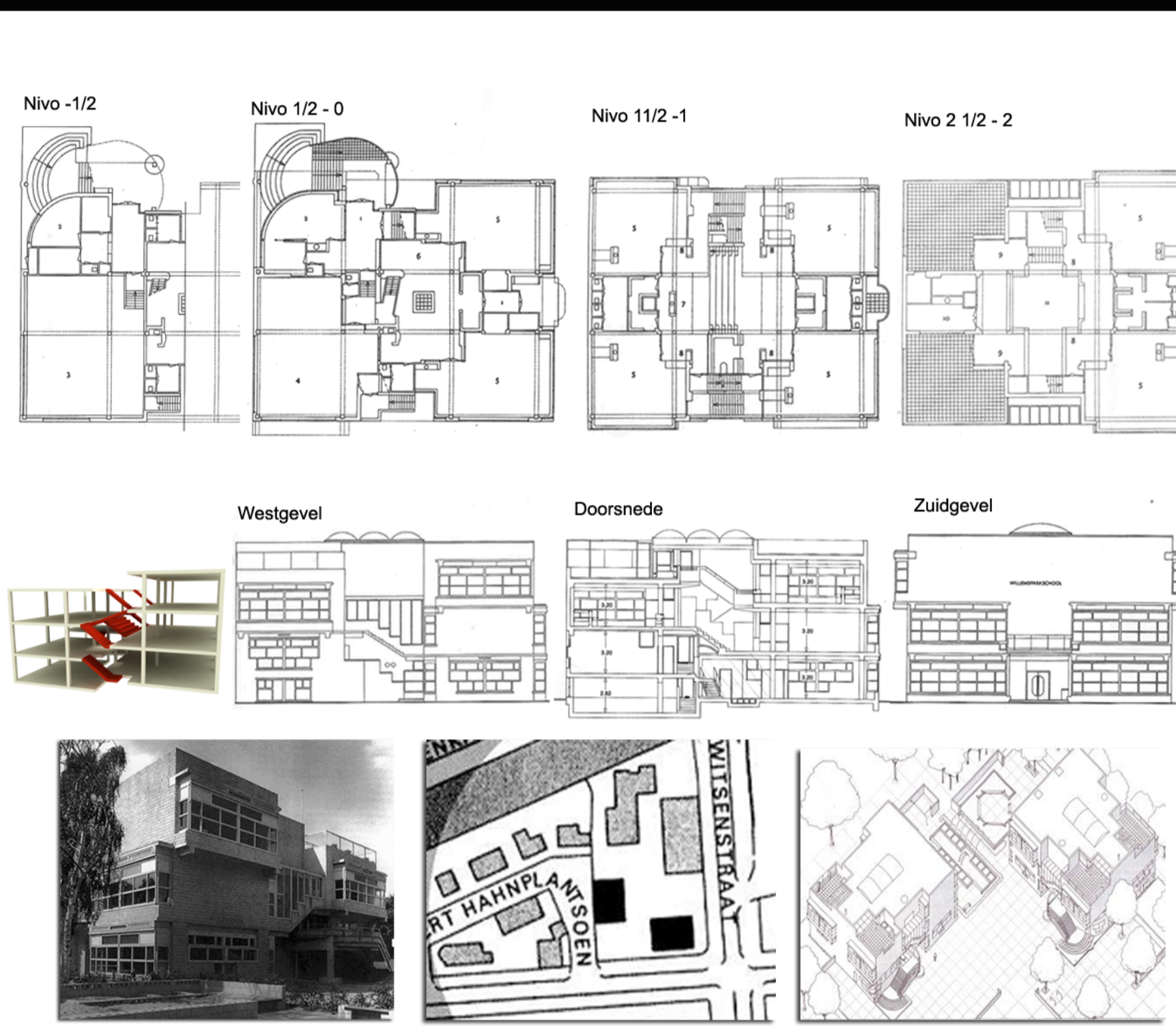
comparison study to represent the evolution of architect's oeuvre

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Apolloscholen, Amsterdam 1980-1983

Centraal Beheer, Apeldoorn 1968-1972



Form

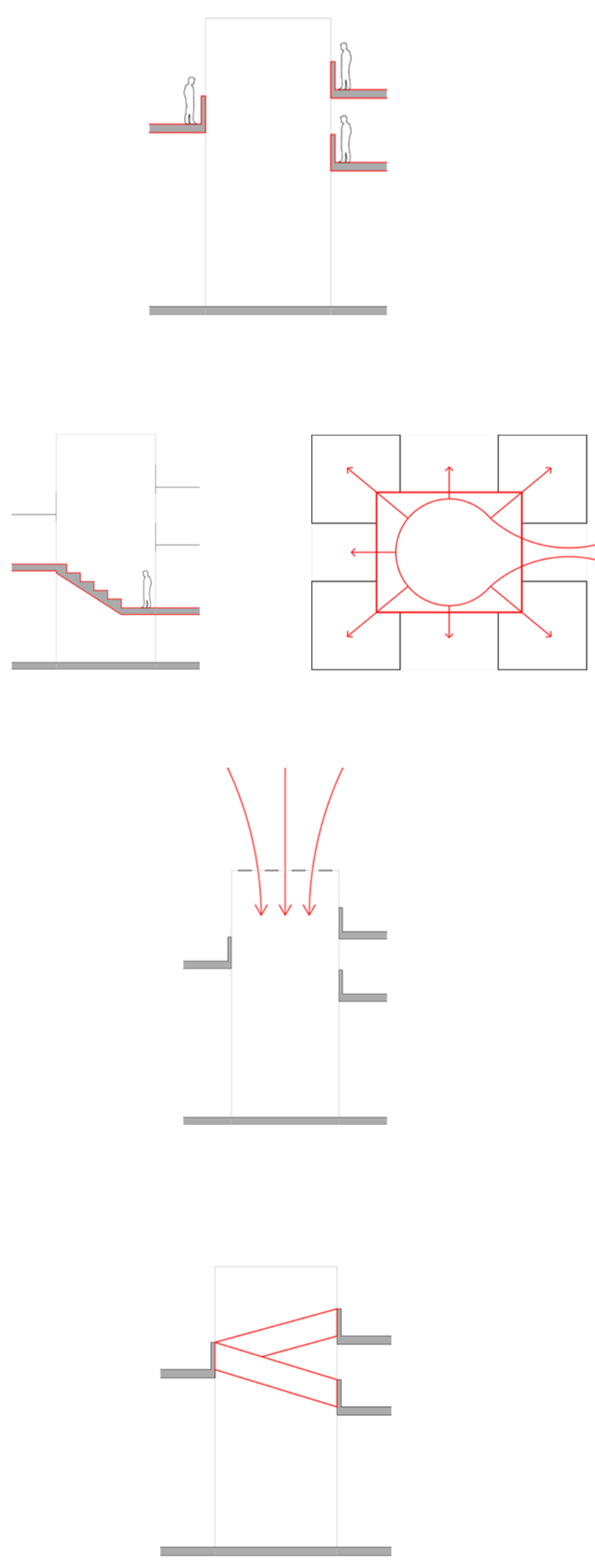
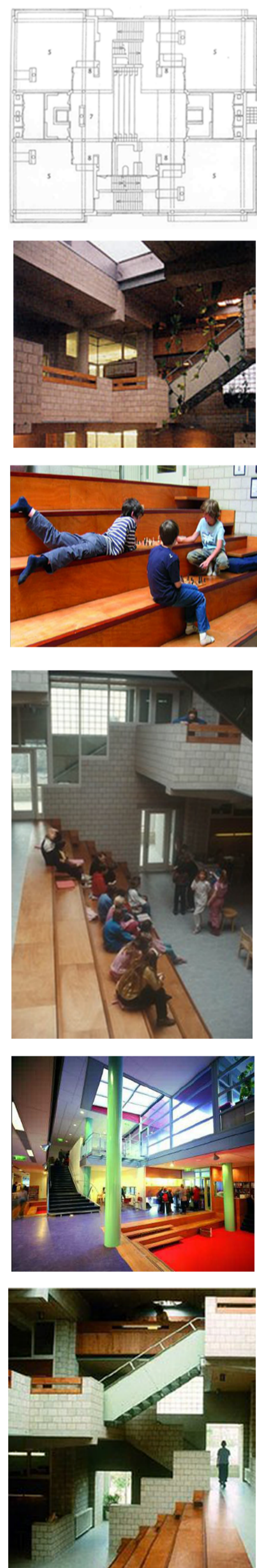
Operation

Performance

Form

Operation

Performance



Hertzberger might have tried to organized the spaces within this building according to city arrangement; such as square, streets, natural daylight, and buildings (facades).

Balconies

The balconies (working and hand crating rooms) that shape the void enhance the effect of building facades around the square. Sound and visual contact from one to the other side make the city atmosphere stronger.

Square

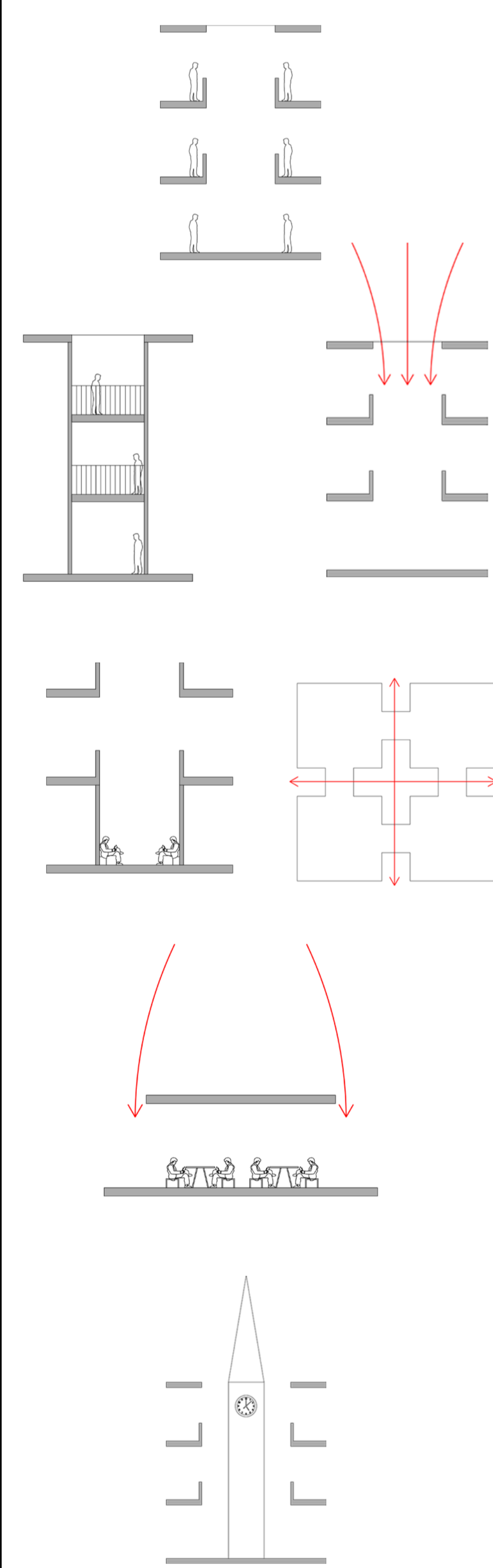
The main hall in the building can be seen as the square. The square form, plan free of columns, the staircase as tribune or sitting places with the natural daylight from the top enhance the urban feature effect. This main hall is further used as a play/performance stage where all students come together.

Daylight

Because the void is fitted with a glass roof the amount of natural daylight that enters the building is huge. The underlying space in combination with other elements will turn from an ordinary hall to a city square.

Bridges

By making use of the natural daylight and sound visual contact, the stairs that connects the balconies on the sides, can be experience as bridges from the main hall. These elements also enhances the theme "city into the buildings".



Work islands

The work islands/balconies one can find throughout the building have a visual and sound relationship with each other. The employees can see and hear each other, this will create a better work ethic because the employees will feel more like team members working together, striving for the same goal. This relationship between the workspaces is not limited to one floor, but goes across multiple floors. Nevertheless, every employee can decorate his own workspace. This will make them feel more comfortable throughout the day.

Daylight

Because every void is fitted with a glass roof the amount of natural daylight that enters the building is huge. The underlying corridors will turn from ordinary corridors to streets. These streets have a very natural look. One will feel like walking through a street somewhere outside in a city. The daylight penetrates to all the workspaces in

Benches

Everywhere in the streets, that form a grid in the building one can find benches. These benches are meant for social gatherings and non official meetings. These benches can also get used by employees who like to step away from their work for a moment. They will feel in a completely different surrounding, unlike most office buildings.

Terrace,

The pavement, together with the outdoor terrace chairs and plants gives the canteen the appearance of an outdoor square. It's supposed to give the users the feeling of being in the middle of a large city.

Clock

By using an enormous clock in the entrance lobby, the architect has created an atmosphere similar to one of a public square in a city. The clock resembles an old church. It will chime around lunchtime, and at the end of the working day. The city feeling gets enhanced by making use of this clock.

Plants and ponds

Inside the building there are many plants and ponds. These plants and ponds will stimulate the outdoor experience further. One is meant to have the feeling of being in a healthy outdoor space.

Intro

This poster contains a comparison study of Herman Hertzberger works and has an objective to show which goals the architect might have had in mind during the design process, known as building-performances, and how these goals might have been achieved through some particular forms and operations. In the beginning of the analysis a theme "city in the building" is chosen by the author, which is seen as the character or the color of Hertzberger's oeuvre. This theme "city in the building" is chosen because the architect's intention in organizing interior spaces in terms of urban hierarchy is seen in most of his projects. Look: Centraal Beheer Apeldoorn, Apolloscholen Amsterdam, Bejaardencomplex "De Overloop" Almere-Haven, Drie Hoven te Amsterdam. The arrangement of square, streets, and building facades along the street as urban elements are experienced in Hertzberger buildings. The central hall can be seen as the square where other spaces are organized around it. The natural light above the void, street and the balconies along the circulation paths with the sound and visual contact enhance the atmosphere of a street life. Walk bridges crossing above the main hall makes the city life in the building strongly felt. Inside the buildings Hertzberger also uses elements like clocks, fountains, plants, benches and street lanterns to create "the city" feeling inside his buildings.

About the architect:
 Herman Hertzberger was born in Amsterdam in 1932. In 1958, after completing his studies at the Technical University in Delft, he returned to Amsterdam to set up a private practice. Hertzberger adheres to a Structuralist philosophy of "spatial possibility" in which architecture is used to provide a spatial framework through which users influence a building's design. Hertzberger has successfully applied this socially inspired theory to a range of different building types, including housing, schools and offices.

Conclusion

Herman Hertzberger, has turned some of his designs into small cities, by using some basic design elements. These elements, like natural daylight, the right materials and the routing give every space inside the building a city like character.

Everywhere in the buildings people get constantly stimulated to socialize, and meet. There are always visual connections in the building, from the long corridors to the balconies. Many spaces in the buildings give the people the opportunity to see and hear each other, thus stimulated to meet and communicate with people. In both the Apollo school as well as the Centraal Beheer building, it's clear to see that the architect wants people to meet. The Apollo school has a central hall which has a higher hierarchy than the surrounding rooms. This hall which can be compared to a city square is the central meeting place in the building.

In the Centraal Beheer building things are a little different. Instead of having one main hall the building has got more streets. The streets can be used as a corridor but also as a meeting place. Benches along the streets, together with the plants and the natural daylight that enters the building from the roof, make it the ideal place to meet and socialize with other people.

Herman Hertzberger showed with these buildings, that the design of the buildings itself can be used to stimulate people to meet each other. He created to buildings that function like small cities.