

Parking Entrance Position

It is maddening, when you approach a building and can't find the parking lot; then when you finally do find it, you can't find the entrance to the building anymore; or if you do, it's not the main entrance and you're lost.

One of the most frequent complaints about the parking near a building is not that it is too far away, but that you don't know where you can go to find a parking spot, and still be sure of how to get back into the building. Parking, which is specifically for the use of visitors, must be clearly marked, from the directions of approach, and in view of the problems outlined above, the position of this

parking must satisfy three further requirements:

1. The person who is coming by car will be looking for the building, not the parking lot. The entrance to parking must be placed so that you can see it automatically, in the process of looking for the building, at about the same time that you see the building's main entrance.

2. While you are parking your car you must be able to see the exit

from the parking area which will lead you into the building. This will let you search for the closest spots, and will mean that you don't have to walk around searching for the exit.

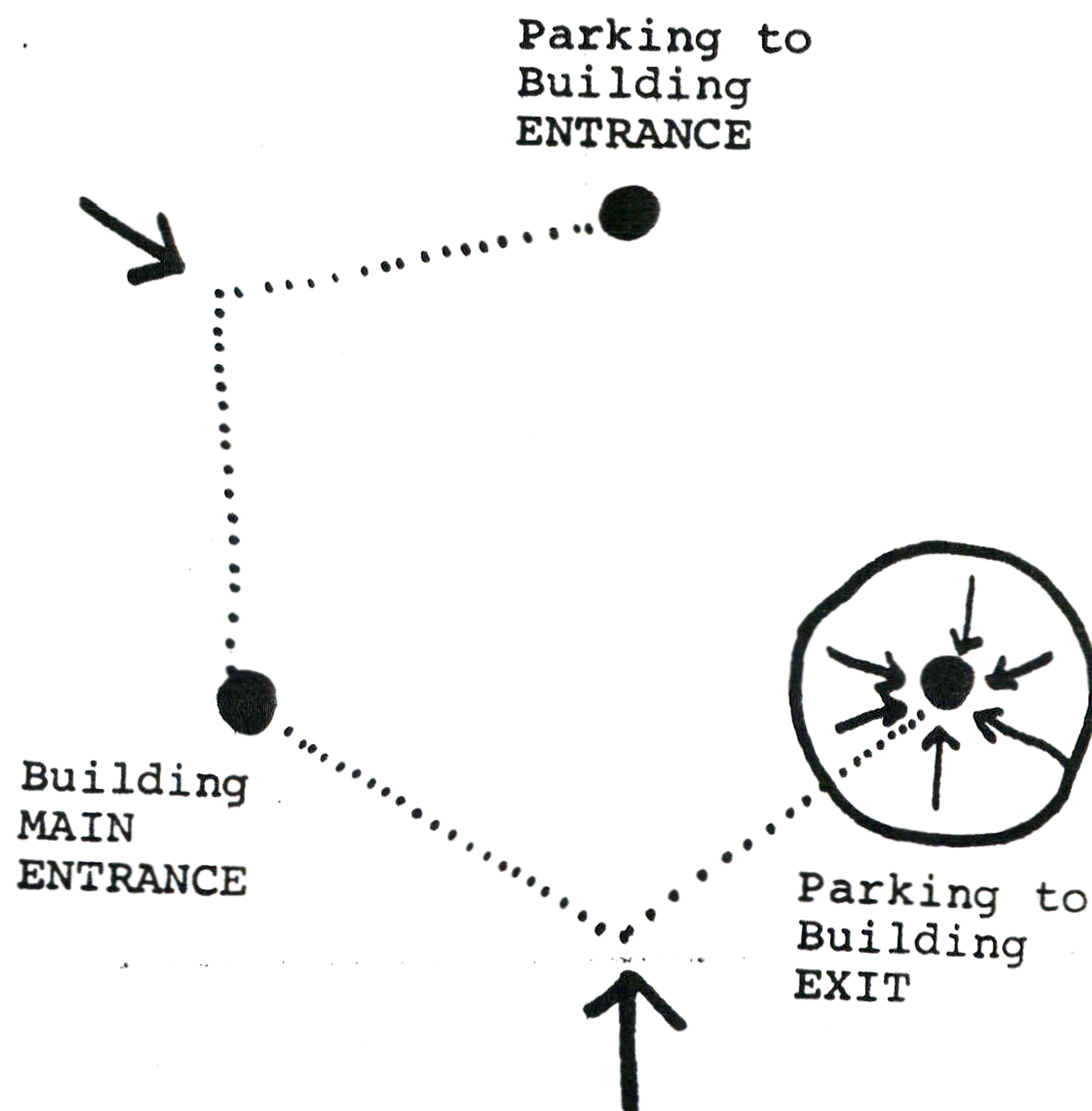
3. From the exit-from-parking-to-building it must be possible to find your way back, very simply, to the entrance you have already identified as the main entrance to the building.

Therefore: Place the entrance to visitor parking, the main entrance to the building, in a simple triangular relationship, so that:

1. *The main entrance, and the parking entrance can be seen simultaneously by visitors arriving by car.*

2. *The exit-from-parking-to-building can be easily seen from every point in the parking area.*

3. *The main entrance to the building can be seen from the exit-from-parking-to-building.*



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This pattern is tentative. If you have any evidence to support or refute its current formulation, please send it to the Center for Environmental Structure, P.O. Box 5156, Berkeley, California 94705; we will add your comments to the next edition.