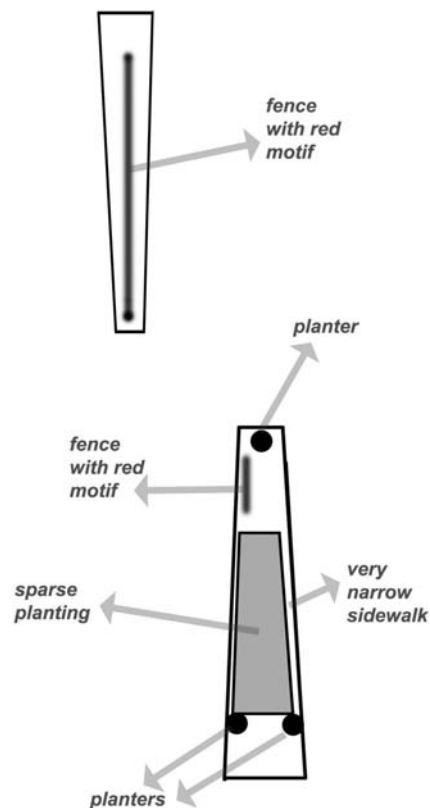


9.8 Diagrammatic plan of element 8

Recruiting Station – and little clutter (Figure 9.8). This offers a strong image of national and civic pride; its Broadway side featuring the Stars and Stripes in neon lights, the northern side a picture of Uncle Sam and a Stars and Stripes flag, and the southern side a plaque honouring ‘New York City Medal of Honor recipients’. The Stars and Stripes is a constant presence in Times Square; indeed at the time of survey element 8 alone contained five, including a central flagpole and two lampposts, each with a flag.

The management and control presence in this space took the form of a CCTV camera at each end of the space. It also stemmed from the BID’s interventions to create something more akin to a civic space: first in the form of pavement widening to both sides of the space, and second in the form of the Times Square information board, displaying street and subway maps. The recruiting station had a ramp for disabled visitors at the northern side, offering one of the few places to sit down in the bow-tie; a small step that is often in use.



9.9 Diagrammatic plan of element 9

#### ELEMENTS 9 AND 10

If Times Square is the ‘crossroads of the world’ then element 9 is physically where this occurs as it is geographically where Broadway crosses 7th Avenue. Thus the space contains two traffic islands, only intended for use by motorists to keep in lane or at its northern and southern extremities by pedestrians (Figure 9.9).

The southern island contained a low wall enclosing planting and several small round planters used by some as a place to sit down, although this was somewhat uncomfortable and only really possible on the southern side. To traverse the side of the island is dangerous due to its narrow width. The northern end of the island contained a lamppost with the Stars and Stripes and a black fence with a red motif. Despite the repelling nature of this space, and the danger involved in traversing the side of the island given its narrow width, users regularly went to the northern tip in order to sit down. The northern traffic island was just a fence, identical to that on