Table 4.4 Associations between composition and configuration (see also Box 4)

	Composition	**Configuration**
Association	Geometry	Topology
Dimension	Fully two-dimensional	Lying between one and two dimensions
Properties	Length Area Angle/orientation	Adjacency Continuity Connectivity
Examples of overall shapes or structures	Square Oblong Quadrilateral	Circuit (cell) Tree
Properties of elements	Rectilinear Orthogonal Wide or narrow Straight or curved	With three-way nodes (T-junctions) With four-way nodes (X-junctions) With pendant nodes (culs-de-sac)
Values	Real numbers, including fractions	Rational numbers, typically integers
Examples	10.5 m long 7.3 m wide 62° angle	Links = 72 Nodes = 49

The ABCD typology can also be interpreted in terms of composition and configuration (Figure 4.10). In terms of composition, we can distinguish between the narrow crooked streets of the A-type, the straight orthogonal streets of the B-type and the sprawling curvilinear patterns of the D-type. Alternatively, in terms of configuration, we could draw a distinction between the connective properties of the B-type versus the tributary properties of the D-type.

Going back to Chapter 2, then, we can make a distinction between descriptors of pattern that were used in 'preferred' and 'discouraged' exemplars: we can distinguish between those intending to express geometric composition – rectangular blocks versus straggling curvilinear networks – and those intending to express topological properties of configuration – the use of grid-like networks (of whatever absolute shape) versus tree-like networks (of whatever absolute shape).

This specific terminology can allow a subtle distinction between the properties *permeability* and *connectivity* – terms sometimes used interchangeably in practice (Figure 4.11). We can use permeability as a